UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF NEVADA

In Re: . Docket No. BK-N 09-52652-GWZ

•

ASTRATA GROUP . Reno, Nevada INCORPORATED, . October 9, 2009

9:41:48 p.m.

Debtor. .

ASTRATA GROUP INCORPORATED,

Plaintiff, .

vs. . ADV. 09-05074

VISION OPPORTUNITY . CHINA, LP and . VISION OPPORTUNITY .

VISION OPPORTUNITY .
MASTER FUND, LTD, .
et al., .

t al.,

Defendants..

HEARING

ON APPLICATION TO EMPLOY LEVENE, NEALE,
BENDER, RANKIN & BRILL LLP AS GENERAL
BANKRUPTCY COUNSEL; APPLICATION
TO EMPLOY LEWIS AND ROCA LLP AS
CO-COUNSEL TO DEBTOR; AMENDED DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT; APPLICATION FOR ORDER
AUTHORIZING POST-PETITION FINANCING
ON A SECURED BASIS PURSUANT TO
11 U.S.C.(c)(2) AND (3); MOTION FOR

Electronic Court Recorder: Sylvia Tilton

Transcription: Typewrite Services Inc.

P.O. Box 5804

Sparks, Nevada 89432-5804

Proceedings recorded by digital sound recording, transcript produced by transcription service.

TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER ENJOINING PREFERRED SHAREHOLDER FROM CONVERTING STOCK AND REPLACING BOARD MEMBERS, ORDER HOLDING THAT ANY SUCH ACTION WOULD BE IN VIOLATION OF THE AUTOMATIC STAY, IN ADDITION TO MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION HEARING ON ISSUANCE OF INJUNCTION TO PREVENT STOCK CONVERSION AND BOARD REPLACEMENT DURING THE COURSE OF THIS CHAPTER 11 CASE

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
BEFORE THE HONORABLE GREGG W. ZIVE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

APPEARANCES:

For the Debtor: Levene, Neale, Bender,

Rankin & Brill L.L.P. 10250 Constellation Blvd.

Suite 1700

Los Angeles, CA 90067-6200

Also Present: JOHN BRYAN

Chief Restructuring Officer

For Walter Jared Frost: Jones Vargas

BY: JANET L. CHUBB, ESQ.

100 W. Liberty St., 12th Floor

Reno, Nevada 89504

For the Vision Group: McDonald Carano Wilson LLP

BY: KAARAN E. THOMAS, ESQ.

BY: MARK DUNAGAN, ESQ. 100 W. Liberty Street

10th Floor Reno, Nevada 89505

Also Present: ANTTI UUSIHEIMALA

For Fame Trading: Woodburn and Wedge

BY: JOHN F. MURTHA, ESQ. 6100 Neill Road - #500

Reno, Nevada 89511

Local Counsel for Lewis and Roca LLP

the Debtor: BY: LAURY MACAULEY, ESQ.

50 West Liberty Street

Suite 410 Reno, Nevada 89501 1 THE COURT: Please be seated.

- 2 This is in the matter of Astrata Group
- 3 Incorporated.
- 4 May I have appearances, please.
- 5 MR. BRILL: Good morning, your Honor. Martin
- 6 Brill, of Levene, Neale, Bender, Rankin & Brill, attorneys

- 7 for the debtor.
- 8 Also present is John Bryan, the chief
- 9 restructuring officer for the debtor.
- 10 MS. CHUBB: Good morning, your Honor. Janet Chubb
- 11 for Walter Jared Frost, an unsecured creditor.
- MS. THOMAS: Good morning, your Honor. Kaaran
- 13 Thomas, of McDonald Carano, for the Vision group of
- 14 companies.
- 15 Also with me is Mr. Mark Dunagan of my office and
- 16 Mr. Antti Uusiheimala, who is the president of Vision.
- 17 Thank you.
- 18 MR. MURTHA: Good morning, your Honor. John
- 19 Murtha appearing on behalf of Fame Trading, the DIP lender.
- 20 MS. MACAULEY: Good morning, your Honor. Laury
- 21 Macauley, of Lewis and Roca, appearing as local counsel on
- 22 behalf of the debtor.
- THE COURT: All right.
- I have several matters on the calendar this
- 25 morning. The first is the application to employ Levene,

1 Neale, Bender, Rankin & Brill as counsel for the debtor.

- I have reviewed the application in docket number
- 3 36 and the declaration of Martin Brill filed in support
- 4 thereof;
- I have not seen any opposition to this motion and
- 6 application.
- 7 MR. BRILL: Your Honor, we've received no
- 8 opposition.
- 9 THE COURT: All right.
- 10 The motion is granted.
- 11 MR. BRILL: Thank you, your Honor.
- 12 THE COURT: Thank you.
- 13 Have the U.S. Trustee sign off on the order,
- 14 please.
- MR. BRILL: Thank you.
- 16 THE COURT: Then the next matter I have is an
- 17 application -- I should point out that I was aware that
- 18 there had been a 150,000-dollar retainer, of which twenty
- 19 thousand dollars was retained on behalf of Lewis and Roca;
- That it had been drawn down by some sixty-six
- 21 thousand two hundred and ninety-six dollars prior to the
- 22 filing of the petition on August 6th;
- 23 That the balance in the retainer is sixty-three
- 24 thousand seven hundred and four dollars approximately.
- MR. BRILL: That's correct, your Honor.

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1
            THE COURT: And next is the application of Lewis
   and Roca as co-counsel.
 3
            MS. MACAULEY: Yes, your Honor.
 4
            THE COURT: I've read the application, docket
   number 38;
 5
            Read the declaration of Bruce Beesley filed in
 6
 7
   support.
 8
            Apparently your firm does have a 20,000-dollar
   retainer; is that correct?
 9
10
            MS. MACAULEY: Yes, your Honor.
11
            THE COURT: All right.
12
            I've reviewed the application. There's been no
13
   opposition.
            I am going to grant the application.
14
15
            Please have the Office of the U.S. Trustee sign
16 off on it --
17
            MS. MACAULEY: Thank you.
18
            THE COURT: -- under Local Rule 9021.
19
            The next matter I have is the amended -- hearing
   on the amended disclosure statement.
20
21
            In that respect, I have read the following
22 pleadings:
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The amended disclosure statement that was filed on

September 11th, docket number 41, and it also incorporates

23

24

25

the plan of reorganization;

7 1 I reviewed the notice of hearing, docket number 2 42; 3 I do know that I was requested to sign an order 4 granting conditional approval of a prior disclosure statement. 5 There had been opposition filed regarding that 6 7 matter and -- by McDonald Carano on behalf of Vision. And that I declined to sign the proposed order and denied it on 8 August 21, 2009, docket number 19. 9 10 I have not seen any opposition to the disclosure 11 statement. 12 Is there any by anybody here? 13 MS. THOMAS: No, your Honor. 14 THE COURT: All right. 15 The disclosure statement, as I understand it, does 16 as follows: 17 I'm familiar with the alleged background. 18 I've read the number of declarations. That Fame Trading, Ltd. is to provide a total of 19 20 8.5 million dollars in financing. But some of that has already been in fact provided to the debtor either in the 21 form of loans or the debtor has collateralized its guaranty 23 for Asia Pacific, which is an entity that is owned -- the equity is owned by the debtor and is apparently the primary 24

asset of the debtor.

1 What is going to happen is that the obligations

- 2 that are extant in favor of Fame will be converted to
- 3 equity.
- 4 Fame, if the plan is confirmed, will then have
- 5 96.5 percent of the ownership interest in the debtor.
- 6 Unsecured creditors are to receive 3.5 percent
- 7 together with a note payable in two years, I believe
- 8 starting--if I've read it correctly--on May 29th of this
- 9 year and which they will receive five percent of the
- 10 aggregate cash flow.
- 11 Then there will be a liquidation trust that would
- 12 be created and Mr. Bryan would be the trustee.
- 13 And proceeds from any litigation would then be
- 14 paid.
- 15 That liquidation trust will be funded by at least
- 16 seventy-five thousand dollars if I approve the DIP
- 17 financing of three hundred thousand dollars.
- 18 And when I indicated that the 8.5 was not all
- 19 cash, what is going to happen as I understand it is that in
- 20 May there was an 8.5-million-dollar loan from Fame through
- 21 an entity known -- Fame was contacted through an entity
- 22 known as Jaker Investments, which was an existing
- 23 shareholder of the debtor.
- 24 And there was a 90-day loan and a 150,000-dollar
- 25 credit which has now been over-advanced. That's described

1 as the AGI loan.

2 And then there was a loan to Asia Pacific that was

- 3 drawn down by four million dollars. So a total, as I
- 4 understand it, right now outstanding of four million two
- 5 hundred and fifty-five thousand dollars of those two loans.
- 6 The loan to Asia Pacific was guarantied by the
- 7 debtor and the debtor pledged most if not all of its
- 8 assets.
- 9 Fame, I understand, is what has been described as
- 10 a single-purpose entity. It's chartered under the British
- 11 Virgin Islands and it has entered into these financing
- 12 arrangements;
- 13 It will forgive that debt. So when it says that
- 14 the financing is not less than 8.5 million it's actually
- 15 new money, what I would consider a new value then to the, I
- 16 guess more technical, of about three million seven hundred
- 17 and eighty-five thousand dollars.
- 18 So I understand the structure.
- 19 And then the company will continue to do business
- 20 primarily through Asia Pacific. It's in the business of
- 21 certain technology dealing with global GPS and other
- 22 tracking devices.
- 23 Apparently the present management is critical for
- 24 Fame, based on the declarations that I've read.
- I have read the letters of July 29, 2009, the

- 1 proposed resolution of August 5, 2009, the letters of
- 2 August 5th and August 6, 2009, from Vision.
- 3 Actually there's three--maybe more than that--
- 4 Vision entities. That it appears that Vision Capital is
- 5 the manager for those others though.
- 6 When I refer to Vision I think it's really Vision
- 7 Capital that's acting.
- 8 Is that correct, Ms. Thomas?
- 9 MR. DUNAGAN: Yes.
- 10 THE COURT: Okay, good. That didn't sound like
- 11 Ms. Thomas but I'll take that as a yes.
- 12 MS. THOMAS: Yes.
- 13 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. So I think I
- 14 understand.
- 15 And I know that Ms. Chubb's client is purportedly
- 16 a fairly significant creditor owed, at least according to
- 17 the July, I think it's the July letter--or one of the
- 18 August letters--of about 3.8 million dollars. I thought
- 19 that's what I read.
- I know that there was an attempt to convert
- 21 preferred stock to common stock in over fifty-eight--the
- 22 numbers are kind of staggering --
- MS. THOMAS: Sixty-one, your Honor.
- THE COURT: Huh?
- MS. THOMAS: Sixty-one percent.

11 1 THE COURT: No. I'm not talking about percents. 2 MS. THOMAS: Days. Sixty-one day. 3 THE COURT: I'm talking about numbers. 4 MR. BRILL: About fifty-eight million. 5 THE COURT: About fifty-eight million. And the most recent calculation by one declaration 6 7 is there's a little over thirty-two million outstanding shares. So you would have to--if I understand this 8 correctly--add those two together to figure out the 9 10 percentage. 11 And now Ms. Thomas is telling me that's about 61 12 percent. 13 There is an assertion that Nevada Revised Statutes, in particular NRS 78.3351, requires two-thirds of 14 15 the outstanding to replace the board of directors. 16 I'm not here at this time to resolve the merits of 17 that dispute. 18 So that's what I understand is in the disclosure 19 statement and I understand what the plan of reorganization 20 is. 21 Does anybody -- have I missed anything, Mr. Brill?

- 22 MR. BRILL: The only correction I would make, your
- 23 Honor, is the Court indicated that there was a drawn-down
- at the Asia Pacific level of four million dollars.
- 25 And you said as --

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12
 1
            THE COURT: That's what I thought it was.
 2
            MR. BRILL: -- as of today's date. Well, as of
 3
   today's date it's higher.
 4
            THE COURT: Oh, it's gone up?
 5
            MR. BRILL: There's been ongoing funding.
 6
            THE COURT: I think the disclosure statement says
 7
   four million.
 8
            MR. BRILL: The disclosure statement? Because
 9
   that was as --
10
            THE COURT: That's what -- all I was saying.
            MR. BRILL: -- we said as of a certain date it was
11
12
   four million dollars.
13
            But it's --
            THE COURT: Okay. That's my point. That's what
14
15
   it said in the disclosure statement.
16
            MR. BRILL: Yes. It's higher.
            THE COURT: And there's at least a footnote in one
17
18
   of these that it would go up and that would reduce the
19
   financing under the plan of reorganization on a dollar-for-
   dollar basis.
20
21
            MR. BRILL: That's correct, your Honor.
22
            THE COURT: Yeah.
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MR. BRILL: Yes.

MR. BRILL: Yes.

THE COURT: I'm aware of that.

23

24

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13
 1
            THE COURT: Is there anything else?
 2
            MR. BRILL: I believe your Honor accurately
 3
   outlined what the plan and disclosure statement provides.
 4
            THE COURT: All right.
 5
            Does anybody wish to be heard?
            MS. THOMAS: Your Honor, Kaaran Thomas for Vision.
 6
 7
            It's been very difficult for us to get
   information.
 8
 9
            We understand through the grapevine, --
            THE COURT: Wasn't this --
10
            MS. THOMAS: -- however --
11
12
            THE COURT: Wasn't this served on you?
13
            MS. THOMAS: Pardon?
            THE COURT: Wasn't the amended disclosure
14
15 statement served upon you?
16
            MS. THOMAS: Yes. But --
17
            THE COURT: All right.
18
            MS. THOMAS: -- there's additional information we
   believe.
19
20
            We believe that recently a hundred preferred
  shares of stock were issued to Fame, a hundred preferred
   shares of Asia Pacific. Which would basically put the
22
23
   control of Asia Pacific in the hands of Fame as of now.
24
            We need to just know, and I think it should also
25 be disclosed, if that was correct.
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14
             THE COURT: Why didn't you file a pleading?
 1
 2
            MS. THOMAS: Your Honor, because what good would
 3
   it do?
 4
             I went to the meeting of creditors.
 5
            THE COURT: I know.
            MS. THOMAS: I talked to --
 6
 7
            THE COURT: I read your declaration.
 8
            MS. THOMAS: I talked to Mr. Brill --
 9
            THE COURT: I'll get to that.
                          I talked to Mr. Brill. I said Mr.
10
            MS. THOMAS:
   Harrison has signed a declaration. When can we depose Mr.
   Harrison?
12
13
            Mr. Harrison is in Singapore. Sorry. You'll have
14
   to go to Singapore.
15
            How about Mr. Euler?
16
            Oh, he just moved to Singapore.
            How about the records?
17
18
            Oh, the records are in Houston at Mr. Euler's old
19
   house. And maybe we'll get that back.
20
             I asked for some information regarding bank
21
   records. Didn't get it.
22
             I asked for information regarding what was
23
   happening with the expenses --
24
            THE COURT: When did you make --
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MS. THOMAS: -- of the company.

15 1 THE COURT: When did you make those requests? 2 MS. THOMAS: September 15th at the meeting of 3 creditors. 4 THE COURT: And what's today? 5 MS. THOMAS: Today is October 9th. THE COURT: Don't you think I would have liked --6 7 enjoyed reading that? 8 MS. THOMAS: Your Honor, this is our issue. And it is my client's decision, you know, for better or for 9 10 worse. 11 THE COURT: To what? 12 MS. THOMAS: To exercise their conversion rights. 13 The idea that we can --THE COURT: Who made the decision not to file a 14 15 pleading where I could study this, where I could have 16 declarations? 17 Ms. Thomas, that's how we do things here. 18 MS. THOMAS: We did. We made that decision, your 19 Honor. 20 And we have not waived our right to object to the 21 We have not waived our right to --22 THE COURT: I haven't said you did. 23 MS. THOMAS: -- to file a plan.

But in terms of disclosure, you know, the idea

that we can -- and Mr. Bryan is basically a newcomer to

24

1 this. 2 So, you know, how do we get the information that 3 we want? Do we have to spend a fortune in going to 4 Singapore? Do we have to spend a fortune trying to compel 5 people to appear and present evidence when they've signed declarations before this Court? 6 7 You know, we have a choice. 8 THE COURT: My point is this. 9 I understand what you're saying. But that -frankly if you were that -- if your clients were that 10 11 concerned about it prior to today's hearing, they should 12 have filed a pleading telling me about it. They didn't. 13 And it should be apparent that when I read your 14 opposition to the ex parte request that I take these 15 matters seriously. 16 And we have rules that require pleadings. 17 I'm not -- if you're having difficulty in 18 obtaining information -- was there a request for a 2004 19 exam? 20 MS. THOMAS: No. 21 THE COURT: Okay. 22 Has there been any procedure followed? 23 MS. THOMAS: No, your Honor. There's 24 been --

THE COURT: Then I'm frankly not all --

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1
            MS. THOMAS: There have been --
            THE COURT: -- that concerned about it.
 2
            MS. THOMAS: And we have not asked the Court to be
 3
 4
   concerned about it.
 5
            THE COURT: Then why are you telling me about it?
            MS. THOMAS: Because something has happened that
 6
 7
   we are concerned about that we found out about recently,
   and we need to understand if it's true.
 8
 9
            Our understanding is -- again our ability to get
   information here --
11
            THE COURT: Any post-petition --
12
            MS. THOMAS: -- is very limited.
13
            THE COURT: -- transaction that affects property
14
   of the estate would be of considerable import to me as
15
   well.
16
            MS. THOMAS: And all we'd like to know is, your
   Honor, did that happen?
17
18
            But you've already seen --
            THE COURT: Let's find out.
19
20
            MS. THOMAS: You've already --
            THE COURT: Let's find out.
21
            Mr. Brill, can you answer the question?
22
23
            MR. BRILL: Yes.
24
            THE COURT: Who has effective control of what I've
   been told is the primary asset of the debtor, which is the
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1 equity in Asia Pacific?
 2
            MR. BRILL: The debtor.
 3
            THE COURT: Now?
 4
            MR. BRILL: Now.
 5
            THE COURT: And that's not going to change unless
   somebody comes here?
 6
 7
            MR. BRILL: Unless -- unless --
 8
            THE COURT: Because that's critical for the
   success of this plan.
            MR. BRILL: Your Honor, unless there's a default
10
   and the lender comes into bankruptcy court and seeks relief
12
   from stay in order to --
13
            THE COURT: What was the point of the August 29th
   transaction with Fame?
14
15
            MR. BRILL: The August 29th, your Honor?
16
            THE COURT: I think that's the date.
17
            MR. BRILL: That was an order to -- for Fame to
18
   put a director on the -- directors on the board.
19
            THE COURT: There's a supplemental debenture.
20
   What is that?
21
            MR. BRILL: Your Honor, that was at the time that
22
   the -- if the Court will recall, that was a 90-day
23
   obliga -- it was a 90-day obligation.
24
            At --
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THE COURT: The 90-day obligation was on the --

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what is now a 255,000-dollar --
 2
            MR. BRILL: No. No. It was also at the --
 3
            THE COURT: For the 8.5?
 4
            MR. BRILL: -- 8.5 as well, your Honor.
 5
             That was just interim financing while the parties
   went out and tried to find some permanent financing.
 6
 7
             THE COURT: But that's a -- fine. Now it's due.
   Now they're a creditor.
 8
 9
             And then what occurs post-petition addition -- is
10
    the supplemental debenture some type of enhanced security?
11
             Because now I read in the pleadings and the
12
   declarations that Fame will in fact enforce its rights
13
   under that supplemental debenture unless present management
14
   stays in.
15
            MR. BRILL: Your Honor?
16
            THE COURT: Did I read that correctly?
17
            MR. BRILL: Yeah. That's correct, your Honor.
18
             As a result of the threaten -- threats that were
19
   made and the letters that were received by the debtor and
   management of the debtor and management of the subsidiary,
20
21
    Fame became -- obviously became nervous because it's loaned
22
   a great deal of money to the subsidiary corporation.
23
             So when the loan came due it asked, as any lender
   would ask, for additional protections, put a person on the
24
25
   board at the subsidiary level and provided certain
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- 1 additional defaults, mechanisms upon default.
- THE COURT: And how does that affect the debtor's
- 3 obligation under its guaranty?
- 4 MR. BRILL: Well, your Honor, in order to -- I
- 5 would think that in order for Fame to be able to foreclose
- 6 on the collateral and enforce its remedies, it would have
- 7 to come to the bankruptcy court and get relief from stay.
- 8 THE COURT: I would imagine so.
- 9 MR. BRILL: And nobody said otherwise, your Honor.
- 10 MS. THOMAS: Well --
- 11 MR. BRILL: You know, I mean nobody said
- 12 otherwise. But those protections for the lender were put
- 13 in place.
- 14 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.
- 15 MS. THOMAS: Your Honor, you know, the Asia
- 16 Pacific assets are outside the jurisdictional boundaries of
- 17 the United States.
- 18 THE COURT: The only -- so what?
- 19 MS. THOMAS: Fame has a lien on -- now apparently
- 20 has a lien on all of them.
- 21 And I don't think Mr. Brill specifically answered
- 22 the question of whether preferred shares of Asia Pacific
- 23 have been issued to Fame.
- 24 THE COURT: You know what? The interest that the
- 25 debtor has in Asia Pacific is the ownership of the common

- 1 stock voting interest.
- 2 I'm assuming that's why Mr. Brill answered my
- 3 question in the manner that he did, is that the management
- 4 in effective control of that entity is still with the
- 5 debtor.
- 6 Is that correct?
- 7 MR. BRILL: That's correct.
- 8 THE COURT: And it's only if those preferred
- 9 shares are converted to common shares that in fact that
- 10 could change.
- 11 Is that correct?
- MR. BRILL: That's correct.
- 13 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.
- 14 I'm assuming that there were then. The answer to
- 15 Ms. Thomas' question is that there was a transaction
- 16 involving preferred shares.
- 17 Is that correct?
- MR. BRILL: That's correct, your Honor.
- 19 THE COURT: And is that the August 29th
- 20 transaction?
- MR. BRILL: Yes, your Honor. If that's the date.
- 22 I believe that's the date.
- 23 THE COURT: Well, you've known about it for a long
- 24 time. Because you mentioned it in your response that you
- 25 filed in a declaration.

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1
            Okay. Please be seated.
 2
             I'm approving the disclosure statement.
 3
             There's been no opposition and we'll set the plan
 4
   for hearing.
 5
            Mr. Murtha.
 6
            MR. MURTHA: Yes, your Honor.
 7
             I have no objection to the disclosure statement of
   course. But just for the order. I'd like to make sure
 8
   that there's a provision in the order that allows for
 9
   modification prior to the time of the hearing pursuant
11
   to --
12
            THE COURT: Well, we --
            MR. MURTHA: -- Local Rule --
13
14
            THE COURT: We typically do that.
15
            MR. MURTHA: -- 3019.
16
            THE COURT: I'm going to ask Mr. Brill --
            MR. MURTHA: But I wanted --
17
18
            THE COURT: No. Mr. Brill will prepare the order.
19
             We'll provide the date for the hearing on the plan
20
   confirmation.
21
            MR. MURTHA:
                          Okay.
22
             It's just that the local rule requires that that
   statement be in the order, and I wanted to make sure it
23
24
   was.
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THE COURT: I expect it to be in there.

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23
 1
            MR. MURTHA: Okay. Great.
 2
            MS. THOMAS: And your Honor?
 3
            THE COURT: One moment.
 4
        (Discussion off the record between the Court and the
 5
   courtroom deputy)
            THE COURT: November 30th at?
 6
 7
            COURTROOM DEPUTY: At 2:00, your Honor.
 8
            THE COURT: So we'll want any objections to the
   plan filed no later than Friday, November 20th.
10
            And then the ballot summary should be filed by
   Friday -- well, that's Thanksgiving, isn't it?
12
        (Discussion off the record between the Court and the
13
   courtroom deputy)
14
            THE COURT: What I'm going to do is have the
15
   objections, then, I'm going to shorten that to November
16
   16th.
17
            I want the ballot summary by the -- Monday the
18
   25th.
19
            Do you folks want to have the hearing on November
20
   30th or not?
21
            MR. BRILL: Yes, your Honor.
22
            THE COURT: Okay.
23
             I'll be here, so it doesn't make any difference to
24
   me
```

MR. BRILL: Okay.

- 1 MS. THOMAS: So long as again -- and I don't mean
- 2 to parade this in court, your Honor, but so long as we have
- 3 Mr. Harrison, Mr. Euler, Mr. Harmon available in this
- 4 country.
- 5 THE COURT: I'm not making any ruling.
- 6 There are established procedures to bring those
- 7 matters in front of me. I'll deal with it when it's in
- 8 front of me.
- 9 I expect the debtor to cooperate.
- Now if those folks are all in Singapore, maybe you
- 11 take one airplane and go to Singapore. I don't know. I
- 12 don't know the answer to those questions.
- And I don't know they ever come to the United
- 14 States.
- 15 It strikes me that there should be a way for
- 16 counsel to be able to arrive at some type of consensual
- 17 resolution;
- 18 If not, I'll be glad to do it when it's in front
- 19 of me.
- MS. THOMAS: Okay.
- 21 THE COURT: Fair enough?
- MS. THOMAS: Yes, your Honor.
- 23 THE COURT: I refuse to start doing things on a
- 24 totally ad hoc basis. We're just too busy.
- MR. BRILL: We need --

25 1 THE COURT: Prepare the order. You've got the 2 date. 3 MR. BRILL: We need a --4 THE COURT: You have the date for the ballot 5 summary. 6 MR. BRILL: Okay. The ballot summary. there's an objections to plan date. Is that the same date 8 for voting on the plan, your Honor? 9 THE COURT: Yes. (Discussion off the record between the Court and the 10 11 courtroom deputy) 12 THE COURT: I think it would be kind of 13 interesting actually to have a plan confirmation hearing. We're going to have another one in October. All I've had 14 15 for two years are 363 sales. So it's going to be kind 16 of --MR. BRILL: Well, here we go, your Honor. 17

- 19 THE COURT: It certainly is.
- MR. BRILL: Yeah.

Something different.

- THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.
- MR. BRILL: Thank you, your Honor.
- 23 THE COURT: The next matter that I have on
- 24 calendar is the application for an order authorizing post-
- 25 petition financing pursuant to Sections 364(c)(2) and (3).

- I have reviewed the motion in docket number 45;
- 2 The declaration of Anthony Harrison filed in
- 3 support. You know, there's a common theme through this
- 4 declaration and one of Bryan's and I think at least one
- 5 other, where there's one mistake that's consistently made
- 6 in the repetitive statement of what had occurred in 2009
- 7 and the need for money.
- For example, at Page 4, paragraph 7, line --
- 9 straight on line 12 it states:
- 10 "AGI and Asia Pacific's capital shortage became
- acute in the first quarter of the financial year
- ending February 28, 2010."
- I know it's 2009. Okay. And that's found
- 14 throughout.
- I would say the complaint got it right.
- MR. BRILL: I'm sorry, your Honor.
- 17 THE COURT: And the motion.
- MR. BRILL: I'm sorry. What -- what -- I'm sorry.
- 19 What are you referring to, your Honor?
- 20 THE COURT: Paragraph 7 of the declaration of Mr.
- 21 Harrison.
- 22 MR. BRILL: Your Honor, let me just take a look at
- 23 that.
- 24 THE COURT: The first quarter, this is 2009.
- MR. BRILL: No, no, your Honor. It's a fiscal

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27
   quarter and that -- and I went over that with my client.
   That is the correct date.
 3
            THE COURT: How can that be?
 4
            MR. BRILL: Well, --
 5
            THE COURT: How can the quarter, first quarter --
   oh, I see.
 6
 7
            MR. BRILL: Okay.
 8
            THE COURT: What you're saying is --
 9
            MR. BRILL: I'm sorry, your Honor.
10
            THE COURT: Maybe I misunderstood. The fiscal,
11
   the first quarter of the fiscal year. So the fiscal year
12
   ends February 28th. The first quarter then would be early
13
   in 2009.
14
            MR. BRILL: Correct, your Honor.
15
            THE COURT: My in --
16
            MR. BRILL: Correct, your Honor.
17
            THE COURT: My misunderstanding.
18
            MR. BRILL: Yeah.
19
            THE COURT: Thank you.
20
            MR. BRILL:
                        I had to go over that with my client a
21
   couple of times. Because --
22
            THE COURT:
                        No.
                             I appreciate that.
23
            MR. BRILL: -- I kept saying that's wrong.
24
            And they said no, this is -- this is the correct
```

date.

- 1 THE COURT: Because I kept doing the -- yeah.
- No, I misread it. That's absolutely correct.
- 3 That's my fault. Thank you.
- 4 At any rate I've read it.
- I didn't see any opposition to this motion.
- 6 MR. BRILL: No opposition, your Honor.
- 7 THE COURT: There's three hundred thousand
- 8 dollars. Actually it's going to be, if I've read it
- 9 correctly, two hundred and eighty-five thousand because
- 10 there's a five-percent fee.
- 11 Correct?
- MR. BRILL: That's correct, your Honor.
- THE COURT: And all assets, stock pledge; correct?
- MR. BRILL: That's correct, your Honor.
- 15 THE COURT: Mr. Murtha, do you have anything you
- 16 want to tell me about this transaction?
- 17 MR. MURTHA: No, your Honor. I don't think
- 18 there's anything to add other than what's in the pleadings.
- 19 THE COURT: All right.
- 20 Asia Pacific stock is pledged as collateral for
- 21 the guaranty?
- 22 MR. BRILL: Yes, your Honor. And if you'll
- 23 recall --
- 24 THE COURT: And it's a -- just a junior lien?
- MR. BRILL: That's correct, your Honor.

- 1 THE COURT: And all the assets, including the
- 2 subsidiary stock, are already encumbered?
- 3 MR. BRILL: That's separate. Not 100 percent of
- 4 the subsidiary stock was encumbered initially because one
- 5 of the certificates was missing.
- 6 And --
- 7 THE COURT: Right. That was in --
- 8 MR. BRILL: Right. And so --
- 9 THE COURT: -- on the original loan.
- 10 MR. BRILL: That's on the original loan. So that
- 11 additional shares will be pledged as part of this.
- 12 THE COURT: Good. All right.
- Does anybody else wish to be heard?
- MS. THOMAS: Yes, your Honor.
- 15 Vision is prepared to also make a debtor-in-
- 16 possession financing loan on the same terms.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay. Well, it would have been nice
- 18 to have them in writing.
- 19 I'm not going to interfere with the debtor's
- 20 business judgment. I think deference is given to that.
- 21 I'd have no -- I don't have any pleadings, anything to
- 22 support that.
- I appreciate it. But I'm going to approve the
- 24 request made by the debtor-in-possession.
- MR. BRILL: Thank you, your Honor.

- 1 THE COURT: The next matter I have is in Adversary
- 2 09-0504. That was commenced by a complaint filed on
- 3 October 6.
- 4 I have read the complaint, docket number 1, in the
- 5 adversary.
- 6 And the docket numbers I'm now going to put on the
- 7 record are from the adversary, not from the main case.
- 8 Then there's plaintiff's motion for a temporary
- 9 restraining order enjoining the first shareholder from
- 10 converting stock, replacing board members, order holding
- 11 any such action to be in violation of the automatic stay,
- 12 and hearing on issuance of injunction to prevent stock
- 13 conversion and board replacement during the course of the
- 14 Chapter 11 case.
- 15 On the same date, October 6, as docket number 9,
- 16 was a motion for an order shortening time to hear this
- 17 matter today. I read that motion;
- 18 I read the declaration of Mr. Bryan and all the
- 19 exhibits attached thereto, docket number 10, also filed on
- 20 the 6th of October. And that contains letters of August
- 21 5th regarding the conversion -- or attempted conversion of
- 22 the preferred -- a letter of August -- excuse me.
- 23 Exhibit 3 is the consent to an action taken which
- 24 is to remove all of the present board members with the
- 25 exception, as I've read this, of John Clough. If I'm

- 1 pronouncing that correctly.
- 2 MS. THOMAS: Correct.
- 3 THE COURT: And signed by three Vision entities.
- 4 That there is another letter of August 11th which
- 5 is a reply to a letter sent apparently by the debtor
- 6 raising the conversion restriction issue. And I've read
- 7 this letter. And it's interesting. It raises a number of
- 8 legal issues.
- 9 At that point Vision asserted that it had 67.1
- 10 percent of the company's outstanding shares. And since
- 11 conversion would not and could not cause Vision's
- 12 beneficial ownership interest to exceed .9 percent because
- 13 it had already happened. In other words, it wasn't
- 14 prospective but had occurred. Interesting argument.
- 15 It also refers to a letter of August 7th that was
- 16 sent by Mr. Brill.
- Once again just to be clear. I am not making any
- 18 determination regarding the matters contained in those
- 19 letters. I'm not resolving any of those disputes at this
- 20 time.
- 21 That was docket number 10.
- 22 Docket number 11 was the declaration of--and I
- 23 know I'm going to mispronounce this name--Krikor J.
- 24 Meshefejian--sorry. And he is an attorney at your law
- 25 firm?

- 1 MR. BRILL: That's correct, your Honor.
- 2 THE COURT: And I've read it. And it describes
- 3 certain communications between he and Ms. Thomas.
- 4 Proof of service is docket number 12.
- 5 Then as I mentioned earlier, I did read Ms.
- 6 Thomas' objection filed on behalf of her clients, docket
- 7 number 13, filed on the 7th of October. I'm familiar with
- 8 it.
- 9 And I note that there's a -- I had said August
- 10 29th. There's a reference here to August 28th. One of
- 11 those two dates that that occurred.
- 12 And I read Ms. Thomas' supporting declaration,
- 13 docket number 14.
- 14 As a result of those I did enter an order, docket
- 15 number 16, setting -- shortening time for the hearing
- 16 today.
- 17 I have also read the declaration of John Bryan,
- 18 docket number 5, in support of this request;
- 19 The declaration of Martin Euler. Is that how it's
- 20 pronounced?
- MR. BRILL: That's correct, your Honor.
- THE COURT: Together with the exhibit attached
- 23 thereto;
- 24 And this includes the letters of August 27, 2009,
- 25 the letter of July 29, 2009. And that's--and I was wrong--

- 1 Mr. Frost. It wasn't three eight. It's three million six
- 2 hundred and fifty-five thousand three hundred and seventy-
- 3 three dollars. So I've read that.
- 4 I'm aware of the assertion that:
- 5 "Relationships with several key clients would be
- 6 severely and potentially irreparably harmed should
- 7 the company seek reorganization under Chapter 11
- 8 or protection under Chapter 7."
- 9 So everybody understands the issues that are
- 10 involved and the potential effect upon this company's
- 11 business.
- 12 And I have read the other exhibits as well.
- Docket number 7 was filed on the 6th of October,
- 14 the declaration of Mr. Harmon. I have read that and the
- 15 exhibit attached thereto. Which is the supplemental
- 16 facility agreement.
- 17 And I was in error earlier. It is dated August 28
- 18 not August 29. I've read it;
- 19 It refers to the May 18, 2009, 8.5-million-dollar
- 20 facility and indicates that this could be increased up to
- 21 sixteen million dollars. And as a result -- that is an
- 22 agreement with Asia Pacific.
- 23 And it raises in my mind at least some question
- 24 about the applicability of Section 549 of the Code. But
- 25 that's not in front of me today.

- I have the request for judicial notice, docket
- 2 number 8.
- 3 And I've already placed on the record all but the
- 4 debtor's schedules of assets and liability which are
- 5 attached as Exhibit 1. And I'm going to take judicial
- 6 notice of those unless there's some objection to that.
- 7 MS. THOMAS: No objection, your Honor.
- 8 THE COURT: All right.
- 9 And I reviewed the notice, docket number 40.
- 10 All right. I'm going to set forth right now, so
- 11 that there's no confusion, the legal standard that I am
- 12 going to apply for this hearing and this request.
- 13 As I understand it this request is being made
- 14 pursuant to Rule -- Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure
- 15 7065 and Section 105 of the Code.
- 16 Is that correct, Mr. Brill?
- 17 MR. BRILL: That's correct, your Honor.
- 18 THE COURT: All right.
- 19 Let's make sure that we all understand then
- 20 exactly what the standards are.
- 21 The Ninth Circuit's long-standing basis for a
- 22 preliminary injunction was found to be too lenient by the
- 23 United States Supreme Court in a case named Winter vs.
- 24 Natural Resources Defense Council, found at 129 Supreme
- 25 Court 365. That was decided last November.

35 1 And that was cited in the moving points and 2 authorities. 3 What is the test for a preliminary injunction, at 4 least in a non-bankruptcy case, I think is set forth at Page 374 of that opinion: 5 "A plaintiff seeking a preliminary injunction must 6 7 establish that he is likely to succeed on the merits, that he is likely to suffer irreparable 8 9 harm in the absence of preliminary relief, that the balance of equities tips in his favor, and 10 that an injunction is in the public interest." 11 The Ninth Circuit had a rule that said that it 12 13 only had to be a possibility of irreparable harm rather than a likelihood of irreparable harm. 14 15 And the Supreme Court said that that was simply too lenient, and so therefore there must be a likelihood 16 17 rather than a possibility. 18 All right. That's fine. 19 There is still, so far as I can determine, a 20 continuum as has been described by Ninth Circuit cases. other words, the greater the possibility of irreparable 21 22 injury the less likely success on the merits and vice 23 versa. 24 That's fine. Okay.

There is also a slightly different analysis that

- 1 is utilized when requests are being made pursuant to 105.
- 2 The test that I've just articulated I would think
- 3 would be applicable under Rule 7065 because it incorporates
- 4 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65, and that's what the
- 5 United States Supreme Court was dealing with.
- 6 There is, as I said, a little bit different
- 7 standard in a bankruptcy case.
- 8 There's no doubt that bankruptcy courts do have
- 9 authority to issue injunctions that do not require a movant
- 10 to meet all three of the requirements in a traditional
- 11 test;
- 12 First of all, likelihood of success on the merits,
- 13 likelihood of irreparable injury, balancing of the
- 14 hardships and of the public interest. There may actually
- 15 be four.
- But these cases such as <u>In re L&S Industries</u>, at
- 17 989 F.2d 929, a 1993 decision of the Seventh Circuit,
- 18 found:
- 19 "A bankruptcy court can enjoin proceedings in
- 20 other courts when it's satisfied that such
- 21 proceedings would defeat or impair its
- 22 jurisdiction."
- 23 Well, I don't have that issue. Those are
- 24 decisions that deal with existing orders issued by a
- 25 bankruptcy court.

37 1 I've got a distinct issue where, does this Court have the ability to enter an order when there has not been 2 3 already an order entered that is -- that a party is seeking to enforce. 4 5 I tend to follow the same procedure as outlined in an opinion that was filed in PTI Holding Corporation in an 6 7 order entered in the -- that one doesn't have a date. We didn't do it then. It appears to me that it was June of 8 9 2006. 10 But at any rate, this is the test: 11 "The first requirement there must be imminent or 12 irreparable harm to the estate or the debtor's 13 ability to reorganize." That's the irreparable injury in a bankruptcy 14 15 context. 16 "There must be a reasonable likelihood of 17 successful reorganization." 18 And that test like most tests before a confirmation hearing, doesn't rise to the same level. It's 19 20 sort of like the 362(d)(3) analysis, the one under 1112, 21 whether a case should be dismissed, those types of 22 analyses. 23 "Third, the court must balance the relative harm 24 as between the debtor and the creditor who would 25 be restrained;

38 1 "Fourth, the court must consider the public 2 interest." 3 And the public interest does include the 4 reorganization benefits to the public, to creditors, to the debtor, to employees. 5 6 In other words, the policy that underlines the whole fundamental tenet of reorganization as set forth by 7 the Ninth Circuit in the Adam's Apple case. 8 9 And as noted in In re Monroe Well Service, which is a good case, found at 67 BR 746: 10 11 "Considering the public interest requires a 12 balancing of the public interest in successful 13 bankruptcy reorganizations with other competing societal interests." 14 Collier indicates that: 15 16 "The most important element will be the balancing of harms. In this regard the bankruptcy court is 17 18 a court of equity, has almost preliminary 19 discretion in fashioning the injunction so as to 20 maximize protection and minimize prejudice. court can condition the continuing effectiveness 21 22 under the injunction on continued positive 23 progress in the case, can require security to ensure lack of harm to the creditor or can require 24

the protected individual to agree to restriction

39 on the transfer of his or her assets." 1 2 And let's look at that. 3 It's being alleged and supported by declarations 4 that unless the present management is retained that there could be and probably would be the loss of a significant 5 amount of business, especially contracts with Asia Pacific 6 that are approximately in one hundred -- have a value of 7 8 one hundred million dollars; 9 That Fame would not finance; That the plan then could not be confirmed. 10 would be dead on arrival; 12 That that would cause employees to leave their 13 positions, as evidenced by that one letter of August that's attached as an exhibit. 14 15 That there would be or there's a significant likelihood or probability that certain intellectual 16 property would be lost as a result. 17

- In other words, these declarations all indicate
- 19 that it would be catastrophic at this point to change the
- 20 management.
- 21 All right.
- There is obviously a ongoing dispute regarding
- 23 corporate governance.
- I must say that that to me strikes me as a
- 25 secondary issue that can be resolved notwithstanding plan

confirmation. Because there are remedies that are

- 2 available.
- I do not intend at this time to issue any type of
- 4 a permanent injunction. I haven't been asked to do so.
- I think the request that I've had, Mr. Brill, may
- 6 go too far.
- 7 I am willing, at least preliminarily as I read
- 8 this, to probably enter some type of a preliminary
- 9 injunction, set a hearing on the issuance of a permanent
- 10 injunction, and combine it with a trial on the merits as
- 11 I'm allowed to do under Rule 65 to get this matter
- 12 resolved.
- I don't know what it means, candidly, when I've
- 14 been asked that -- to have this preliminary injunction.
- 15 guess what you're really asking for is a hearing on the
- 16 issuance and to prevent stock conversion and board
- 17 replacement during the course of the Chapter 11 case.
- 18 Well I don't know what that means, during the
- 19 course of the case. Cases don't end upon plan
- 20 confirmation, for example, especially when there's a
- 21 liquidation trust.
- 22 And the management of a corporation surely would
- 23 affect the assets that might be in that liquidation trust.
- 24 Because as I understand it, the primary litigation
- 25 that is contemplated would be where? The entities that are

- 1 seeking to change the composition of the board. That
- 2 what I thought.
- 3 MR. BRILL: Not all of them, your Honor.
- 4 The primary target of the debtor at the present
- 5 time is the director John Clough. That's the party that
- 6 we've identified --
- 7 THE COURT: This is a fellow that may or may not
- 8 have some arrangement with the vendor or whatever?
- 9 MR. BRILL: That's correct, your Honor.
- 10 THE COURT: Yeah. Okay.
- 11 And I don't -- just by me saying it, I don't need
- 12 to hear people say that he doesn't. I understand that it's
- 13 disputed.
- 14 So that's where I find myself.
- 15 I have obviously reviewed the pleadings.
- I've now placed the standard that I believe is
- 17 applicable for my determination on the record.
- 18 So if you disagree with the legal standard I've
- 19 articulated, you need to tell me now. Because your -- I
- 20 would point out that your points and authorities, I think,
- 21 are going to have to be changed.
- 22 Because at Page 19, at line -- starting at line
- 23 10, you say:
- "In the Ninth Circuit the moving party may meet
- its burden by demonstrating either a combination

- of probable success on the merits and the
- 2 possibility of irreparable harm." And you cite
- 3 Continental.
- 4 That was clearly the holding in Continental. But
- 5 it's no longer the law as a result of the Supreme Court.
- 6 MR. BRILL: Sorry about that.
- 7 THE COURT: It's the likelihood. There's no
- 8 question about that.
- 9 And then I think your points and authorities about
- 10 what occurs in a Chapter 11 are accurate. Okay?
- MR. BRILL: Yes. your Honor.
- 12 And I don't disagree with the standard that the
- 13 Court enunciated.
- 14 THE COURT: Is there any disagreement with the
- 15 legal standards I placed on the record?
- MS. THOMAS: No, your Honor. No.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay. Good. Let's go forward.
- 18 Okay. That opinion I referred to, by the way, is
- 19 docket number 58 in Case Number 06-50140, entered on July
- 20 5, 2006. And this says it was signed by Judge Markell.
- 21 That's my -- I signed one, too. We all signed it. Very
- 22 weird.
- Okay.
- 24 MS. THOMAS: You were on vacation, your Honor.
- THE COURT: But I signed both.

- 1 MS. THOMAS: Oh, okay.
- THE COURT: I signed one and he signed one.
- 3 MS. THOMAS: Okay. Yeah.
- 4 THE COURT: So we're just like what the Ninth
- 5 Circuit just did last -- we're either both right or we're
- 6 both wrong.
- 7 MR. BRILL: Your Honor, I think the Court has
- 8 enunciated the correct legal standard and I think the Court
- 9 has gone through the evidence that's been presented. And
- 10 there's been no opposition filed.
- I think we've made a case that shows that there'll
- 12 be irreparable harm to this bankruptcy estate if Vision is
- 13 allowed to go forward with converting its preferred stock
- 14 to common stock and then trying to oust current management.
- 15 Current management is required, necessary and
- 16 indispensable to this bankruptcy case.
- 17 Fame made its loan at both the subsidiary level
- 18 and at the level of this bankruptcy case based upon
- 19 existing management. Because it knows that existing
- 20 management has the contacts with the various important
- 21 vendors -- or customers in Singapore and in other places in
- 22 Asia.
- 23 It's those relationships that have been built up
- 24 over many many years that are the basis of those contracts
- 25 and obtaining those contracts.

- 1 THE COURT: This company which is a holding
- 2 company, but its subs have been in business since when,
- 3 1986?
- 4 MR. BRILL: Yes, your Honor. Yes, your Honor.
- 5 And in fact, as set forth in the declaration, one
- 6 of the major customers required that Mr. Harrison move from
- 7 London--at great expense to him--to Singapore and spend
- 8 three years in Singapore during the life of that contract
- 9 in order to ensure that that contract is performed and that
- 10 he's the spokesperson and the person that they can deal
- 11 with in connection with that contract.
- 12 It's based upon that that Fame was willing to go
- 13 forward and loan money knowing that Mr. Harrison and Mr.
- 14 Euler, the current management, would be moving to Singapore
- 15 and moving forward with this hundred-million-dollar
- 16 contract.
- 17 That contract is in jeopardy, your Honor. As we
- 18 set forth in our initial papers that are filed with this
- 19 court, we hope to do an out-of-court restructuring.
- Because even as acknowledged by Vision, a Chapter 11
- 21 for this case is very difficult and makes it very difficult
- 22 for the debtor to continue to do business and for its
- 23 subsidiaries to continue to do business with its existing
- 24 customers.
- The customers in Asia don't understand Chapter 11,

- 1 they think it's a bank -- they think it's a liquidation
- 2 proceeding.
- 3 They're concerned that there's going to be other
- 4 management put in.
- In one of the contracts there is a provision that
- 6 if a trustee is appointed and they can turn -- they can get
- 7 their -- the -- there's an escrow that was established, and
- 8 I think we alluded to that, your Honor, and certain
- 9 information that would allow them to proceed with their
- 10 contract without --
- 11 THE COURT: Isn't that the IP that we -- I saw?
- MR. BRILL: The IP, your Honor. Yes, your Honor.
- 13 The IP would allow them to access the IP if
- 14 there's a trustee appointed at the parent level.
- 15 So they're very con -- they're very concerned
- 16 about bankruptcy proceedings and they don't know the
- 17 difference between a Chapter 11 reorganization and a
- 18 Chapter 7.
- 19 So the thought was to try and avoid filing a
- 20 Chapter 11 at all, do an out-of-court restructure.
- 21 We met with, you know, Vision initially to try and
- 22 work out a deal with Vision because they're the ones that
- 23 put money into this entity beforehand.
- They expressed no desire to do that, so we went
- 25 and found another source, Fame. Fame put the money in. It

- 1 was only after Fame put the money in that Vision started
- 2 complaining.
- 3 Your Honor, it's clear that this company, the
- 4 debtor, is insolvent. That Equity is out of the money.
- 5 That they're -- that they're not -- that Vision has not
- 6 filed anything which we had expected in connection with the
- 7 hearing on the disclosure statement, in connection with the
- 8 borrowing motion.
- 9 We, you know, to be candid with your Honor, I was
- 10 rather shocked that we didn't receive any opposition
- 11 pleadings to those -- to those pleadings which we filed.
- 12 Certainly --
- 13 THE COURT: What's the amount of the unsecured
- 14 obligations?
- MR. BRILL: I'm sorry, your Honor?
- 16 THE COURT: The amount --
- 17 MR. BRILL: About ten million.
- 18 THE COURT: Huh?
- 19 MR. BRILL: There's about ten million dollars in
- 20 unsecured obligations.
- 21 THE COURT: Non-insider?
- MR. BRILL: Insiders probably make up about half
- 23 of that, your Honor.
- 24 THE COURT: Oh.
- 25 MR. BRILL: It depends on whether Mr. Frost is --

1 THE COURT: Is there any other secured debt other

- 2 than that owed to Fame?
- 3 MR. BRILL: No, your Honor.
- 4 As I was saying, your Honor, we were rather
- 5 shocked that --
- 6 THE COURT: That would mean that--I keep
- 7 forgetting the name and I apologize--Mr. Frost; is that
- 8 correct?
- 9 MR. BRILL: Yes.
- 10 THE COURT: Is he the largest single --
- 11 MR. BRILL: He's the largest unsecured creditor,
- 12 your Honor. He loaned money to the company and it's been
- 13 unpaid for a long period of time. He's owed about three,
- 14 almost three seven, 3.7 million dollars.
- 15 He's not an officer and director, although the
- 16 debtor believes that he may be classified as an insider, a
- 17 non-statutory insider. But that would remain to be seen.
- 18 THE COURT: All right.
- 19 MR. BRILL: The irreparable harm to the estate,
- 20 your Honor, I think that's really the key. And I think the
- 21 Court focused on that.
- 22 That we have a reorganization that was voted for
- 23 almost unanimously by creditors pre-petition.
- 24 That we were unsuccessful as a result of action by
- 25 Mr. Frost and Vision to implement that. So we attempted to

- 1 get this company in and out of bankruptcy as quickly as
- 2 possible so that the contracts are not lost.
- 3 We attempted to have the hearing on the disclosure
- 4 statement combined with the hearing on confirmation. And
- 5 as the Court knows, the Court denied that order.
- 6 So we set a hearing on the disclosure statement as
- 7 soon as possible.
- 8 This was the earliest date. The Court has now
- 9 approved the disclosure statement.
- 10 We now have a hearing on confirmation set for
- 11 November 30th, and we're confident that we will get the
- 12 requisite votes to confirm the plan of reorganization.
- We have the financing the Court -- which the Court
- 14 just approved from Fame, which will allow us to implement
- 15 the plan, pay the administrative expenses that have been
- 16 incurred.
- Without that financing and without Fame financing
- 18 this debtor, the case would be administratively insolvent.
- 19 When the case was filed there was less than two
- 20 thousand dollars in the bank account for the debtor
- 21 corporation.
- The balancing of the harm, your Honor, I mean I
- 23 don't think there can be any doubt that the harm to the
- 24 debtor if management is removed is tremendous. It
- 25 basically is the end of this bankruptcy estate and it'll be

- 1 insolvent. Fame will not finance the subsid -- it will
- 2 adversely affect the subsidiary.
- 3 And the business of the subsidiary versus the harm
- 4 to Vision is, you know, I can't even figure out what it is.
- 5 It's relatively minor, your Honor.
- They're a preferred shareholder now that's out of
- 7 the money. They want to convert and be a shareholder, a
- 8 common shareholder holding a majority of the shares of an
- 9 insolvent company.
- 10 The only purpose that could be served by them
- 11 wanting to do this is to replace management, as they've
- 12 indicated.
- But they have no alternative plan, your Honor.
- 14 What I really had expected to rec -- to see from Vision was
- 15 a alternative plan. And we -- and management would have
- 16 been happy.
- 17 Mr. Bryan, as the chief restructuring officer,
- 18 would wel -- would have welcomed a competing plan, one that
- 19 would have financed the operations of the debtor, would
- 20 have put in the fifteen million dollars or so that's
- 21 required at the subsidiary level. But that was never
- 22 offered.
- 23 There have been negotiations ongoing, not between
- 24 the debtor and Vision as much as between Fame and Vision.
- 25 Because Fame is the entity that is going to be

- 1 owning the debtor and it controls the money. It controls
- 2 what, you know, really what the terms of the plan are.
- 3 That's the debtor's plan. It's Fame that's giving up the
- 4 equity and it's Fame that's going to give up the cash
- 5 collateral note to creditors.
- 6 And so it is Fame that really is the party that
- 7 Vision needed to negotiate with. And --
- 8 THE COURT: Fame's not giving up the equity. Fame
- 9 is getting the equity.
- 10 MR. BRILL: Well, I'm sorry. Your Honor,
- 11 they're -- well, they're getting 96.5 percent of the equity
- 12 but they're giving -- they're allowing --
- 13 THE COURT: They're giving up the 3.5.
- 14 MR. BRILL: -- 3.5 percent. That's what I meant,
- 15 your Honor.
- They're giving 3.5 to the creditors and they're
- 17 allowing creditors to get paid out of this cash -- the cash
- 18 flow note, five percent of the cash flow note for a two-
- 19 year period. And if the creditors aren't paid within the
- 20 two years 75 percent, then it'll go on for a year.
- 21 So Vision is really the party that -- I'm sorry.
- 22 Fame was really the party that Vision needed to negotiate
- 23 with. And my understanding is that those negotiations have
- 24 been ongoing and were -- took place as recently as two
- 25 weeks ago.

- 1 So in response to Ms. Thomas' declaration that I
- 2 never called her and, you know, negotiated with regard to
- 3 these issues, the parties that had the real interest were
- 4 negotiating.
- 5 And it was only when those negotiations broke down
- 6 that -- and we knew the intent of Vision to go forward with
- 7 the conversion, that we, you know, prepared and filed our
- 8 papers for the preliminary injunction, your Honor.
- 9 So that explains why even though the Vision says
- 10 that we've known about this for almost sixty days, which is
- 11 true--we've known of their intent, they gave us the 61-day
- 12 notice--but we were hopeful that it would get resolved by
- 13 the business people.
- 14 Unfortunately that has not happened yet. I still
- 15 hold out hope that it may happen, but it hasn't happened as
- 16 of today's date. But their actions that they can take as
- 17 early as October 11th would threaten this reorganization.
- 18 THE COURT: Okay.
- 19 MR. BRILL: Your Honor, and I believe everything
- 20 that -- all of the evidence to support the standards is in
- 21 the papers and I think the Court did a good job of
- 22 analyzing it.
- 23 If the Court wants anything more from me, I'll be
- 24 happy to elaborate on it.
- THE COURT: Ms. Thomas.

- 1 MS. THOMAS: Thank you, your Honor.
- 2 First I'd like to talk about the standard of
- 3 irreparable harm. And I think that, you know, that when
- 4 the Supreme Court talked about the need to prove up
- 5 irreparable harm it meant it.
- And the hearsay declarations, from people who are
- 7 not here, about how the customers are going to be lost and
- 8 how the financing is going to be done, you know, are
- 9 hearsay.
- 10 What is there in Mr. Euler's declaration that is
- 11 not hearsay? What employees are going to do, what
- 12 customers are going to? Is there a single declaration from
- 13 a customer? No.
- 14 My client is here. He's ready to be put on the
- 15 stand and deposed about this. This is not -- the things
- 16 that are being said are not true.
- 17 Let's start with the idea that oh, they came to
- 18 Vision and Vision wouldn't finance the operations of AGI
- 19 and so they had to go to Fame. That's not true.
- They came to Vision. Vision said first, see if
- 21 you can raise equity. But second, give us financial
- 22 information. And they didn't do it.
- 23 Why didn't they do it? They didn't do it because
- 24 Mr. Bryan and his father and his company Watley have a deal
- 25 with Fame to give them five percent of the loan proceeds.

- 1 They have a five-percent commission on this. That's why.
- 2 They went to Dominic & Dominic. And Dominic &
- 3 Dominic is an investment banker. And Dominic & Dominic had
- 4 several people who are ready to finance this company. But
- 5 they wouldn't give Dominic & Dominic the information.
- 6 There's a buyer out there ready to buy this
- 7 company. We don't know how much because the buyer can't
- 8 get any information about the company.
- 9 Mr. Clough, the director who they say is so evil,
- 10 tried to get -- he's evil because he tried to get financial
- 11 information about the company.
- 12 I think that it was armed -- wasn't it armed
- 13 guards prevented him?
- 14 These preferred issuance of shares and things that
- 15 are being done, they're being done without Mr. Clough's
- 16 input. Mr. Clough is the independent director. But yes,
- 17 he's the evil one.
- 18 Let's look at the -- so where is the standard of
- 19 irreparable harm here other than hearsay?
- The reason we didn't respond, your Honor, was, A,
- 21 because of time, but, B, because your Honor said that there
- 22 would be no response -- deadline for the response. So we
- 23 didn't.
- But I did bring my client here. And he's ready to
- 25 be -- to testify under oath about what's going on with this

54 Uusiheimala - Direct 1 company. 2 What's going on with this company is that people 3 are --4 THE COURT: Then put him on the stand. 5 MS. THOMAS: Yeah. Absolutely. People are telling --6 7 THE COURT: Put him on the stand. MS. THOMAS: Yeah. 8 ANTTI UUSIHEIMALA, VISION'S WITNESS, SWORN 9 10 DIRECT EXAMINATION 11 BY MS. THOMAS: 12 Would you state your name for the record. Antti Uusiheimala. 13 Α 14 Q And could you spell your last name. 15 U-u-s-i-h-e-i-m-a-l-a. Α 16 And could you spell your first name. Q 17 A A-n-t-t-i. 18 Mr. Antti, what is your position with the Vision 0 19 companies? 20 Α Investment manager. 21 0 Okay. 22 And of what company? Of Vision Capital Advisors, which oversees and manages 23 the investments by the three Vision funds.

25 Q

Okay.

- 1 How long have you?
- 2 A Since the beginning of the fund, June of '05.
- 3 Q Okay.
- 4 Are you familiar with the relationship between the
- 5 Vision companies, I'm going to call them, and Astrata?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q And tell me how you first learned about the Astrata
- 8 investment.
- 9 A Well, I was with the company from the day we made the
- 10 first investment to the company and had been following the
- 11 company from I guess, if my memory serves me right, 2006
- 12 onwards and have subsequently, you know, been helping other
- 13 individuals at Vision in trying to figure out what is going
- 14 on at Astrata since they went dark in June and then and so
- 15 on.
- 16 Q When you say Astrata went dark in June, tell the Court
- 17 what you mean by that.
- 18 A They contacted us, I believe it was in the beginning of
- 19 June --
- 20 THE COURT: Of what year?
- 21 THE WITNESS: Oh, of this year.
- 22 -- claiming that the cost of being a public
- 23 company was such a huge burden on them and it really would
- 24 help the company if they would be allowed to go dark and
- 25 start filing under Section 13 of the Act.

- 1 And at that point we had no idea that the company
- 2 was in -- had plans of seeking senior secret debt
- 3 practically.
- 4 Practically management was negotiating a
- 5 management buyout with Fame. We had no idea of that at the
- 6 time and they decided not to disclose this to us. Nor did
- 7 they disclose any of the agreements with Fame that had been
- 8 signed at the time.
- 9 BY MS. THOMAS:
- 10 Q Were they required to disclose those agreements?
- 11 A Yes, unless --
- 12 Q Why were they required to disclose those agreements?
- 13 A As a public company you're required to disclose all
- 14 material agreements.
- And the company knowingly--that's my
- 16 interpretation, knowingly--decided not to file those in
- 17 hopes of getting our approval to go dark.
- 18 And, you know, we felt misled obviously at the
- 19 time.
- 20 Q So explain to the Court, did Vision actually refuse
- 21 financing for the company?
- 22 A So the company came to Vision asking for additional
- 23 capital.
- 24 At the time we had already funded thirteen million
- 25 dollars and we encouraged the company to go and seek equity

- 1 financing from the market, and once they would have a term
- 2 sheet we would sort have a look at the terms and see to
- 3 what extent and if we were going to participate. But at
- 4 least we wanted to find out what other financing would be
- 5 available for the company.
- 6 Q What happened then?
- 7 A Then we didn't hear from the company for a long time
- 8 until we learned about this transaction with Fame.
- 9 Q So between the time that you told the company to come
- 10 back with term sheets and the time that the Fame
- 11 transaction was put in place, did the company ever come to
- 12 you and ask for financing?
- 13 A To my recollection, no.
- 14 I mean there were discussions about, you know,
- 15 capital rates and complaining that they -- they complained
- 16 to us that they couldn't find capital. But there was never
- 17 any mention on them trying to seek, you know, to take over
- 18 that instant equity.
- 19 THE COURT: When did you first tell a
- 20 representative of the debtor to see what funds might be
- 21 available in the equity market? When did that happen?
- 22 THE WITNESS: This was -- and again I wasn't the
- 23 lead person at the time. But I believe that was --
- 24 THE COURT: So you didn't participate in this
- 25 discussion?

58 Uusiheimala - Direct 1 THE WITNESS: I was not -- it was another 2 investment manager of Vision. But I was aware of the 3 process as --4 THE COURT: Somebody told you about it? 5 THE WITNESS: No, no. We had discussions 6 internally with Vision. So I was --7 THE COURT: But you didn't have these discussions? THE WITNESS: Not directly with -- right. 8 9 THE COURT: I think I'll overlook all the hearsay. 10 THE WITNESS: No. This is --Your Honor, and that would be fine. 11 MS. THOMAS: If you would overlook the hearsay from Mr. Euler's 12 declaration as well. 13 14 THE COURT: I'm overlooking all of the hearsay. 15 MS. THOMAS: All of it. THE COURT: I'm trying to find out what's going on 16 17 I'm at a temporary -here. 18 MS. THOMAS: Right. 19 THE COURT: -- restraining order stage. 20 MS. THOMAS: Right. 21 THE COURT: I haven't even decided if I'm going to 22 issue that, much less a preliminary injunction. 23 MS. THOMAS: Right. 24 THE COURT: When did that -- when did you find out

that Vision had asked the debtor to see what was available

59 Uusiheimala - Direct 1 in the equity markets? 2 THE WITNESS: This was in the spring of this year. 3 THE COURT: Prior to them asking to go dark? 4 THE WITNESS: Yes. THE COURT: Okay. 5 And when did you or Vision find out about the --6 7 first know about the transaction between the debtor and 8 Fame? 9 THE WITNESS: I believe that was June 22nd or -on or about June 22nd when they eventually filed the 8(k) 10 THE COURT: Who -- the 8(k). Is that how you 11 found out, it was in the 8(k)? 12 THE WITNESS: Yes. 13 14 THE COURT: Okay. 15 And who would have had the discussions in the spring of 2009 with the debtor's representatives? 16 17 THE WITNESS: It was Andrew Merkatz, Merkatz of Vision. 18 19 THE COURT: Would you spell that for me. 20 THE WITNESS: M-e-r-k-a-t-z. THE COURT: And who is he? 21 22 THE WITNESS: He's another investment manager at Vision. 23 24 THE COURT: How many Vision investment managers

are there involved in this -- in the relationship with the

- 1 debtor?
- THE WITNESS: Andy and myself.
- 3 THE COURT: Okay.
- 4 And both of you have equal responsibility and
- 5 authority; is that correct?
- 6 THE WITNESS: Yeah. Yes. With respect to this
- 7 matter.
- 8 THE COURT: You don't work for him, he doesn't
- 9 work for you?
- 10 THE WITNESS: No.
- 11 THE COURT: Okay.
- Now I have a timeline. Thank you.
- Go ahead.
- 14 BY MS. THOMAS:
- 15 Q Subsequently did you learn about the commissions that
- 16 were being received by Mr. John Bryan and Mr. Anthony Bryan
- 17 and their company Watley?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q From the Fame loan?
- 20 A Yes.
- 21 Q Can you describe those.
- 22 A The disclosure, what they filed, I think they were
- 23 supposed to be paid five percent of the maximum amount of
- 24 the loan facility within 180 days and then another five
- 25 percent of the loans actually -- of the amounts actually

Uusiheimala - Direct

- 1 drawn under the facility.
- 2 And I don't know what happened to that. Once the
- 3 facility was increased from eight and a half to sixteen
- 4 million, now are they going to get 1.6 million? I don't
- 5 know. I haven't seen those agreements. But that's -- that
- 6 would be my read.
- 7 Q Okay.
- 8 Now Judge Zive mentioned the declaration of Mr.
- 9 Euler regarding the terrible damage that would happen --
- 10 A Right.
- 11 Q -- if management was changed.
- 12 A Um-hmm.
- 13 O Okay.
- 14 First of all with respect to the financing, the
- 15 loss of the Fame financing.
- 16 A Um-hmm.
- 17 Q Is Vision -- does Vision have the funds necessary to
- 18 replace the Fame financing if required?
- 19 A If required, absolutely. Yes.
- 20 Q Okay.
- 21 And what would you require in order to replace all
- 22 of the Fame financing up to the -- up to the maximum amount
- 23 under the plan?
- 24 A We would need to have the same access to information as
- 25 Fame has had.

- 1 Q And have you tried to get that information?
- 2 A We tried. We sent a letter to the company requesting
- 3 them to send financial information to us, which they did to
- 4 a limited amount up to the time prior to the Fame
- 5 transaction. So everything that was of interest to us
- 6 obviously was omitted from the information package.
- 7 And we also requested that the management and the
- 8 officers of the company make themselves available for
- 9 discussion and fact finding. Which they refused.
- 10 0 Okay.
- 11 Was there also a problem with the negotiation of
- 12 the Fame loan in terms of communications with AGI and the
- 13 counsel for Fame that did not take place through Fame's
- 14 counsel -- I'm sorry -- through AGI's counsel?
- 15 A Yeah. My end --
- 16 Q Can you describe that.
- 17 A And again this is -- our primary source of information
- 18 is the independent director, the only independent director
- 19 of Astrata, John Clough, who is now, you know, not a party
- 20 of this management buyout transaction.
- 21 And he sent -- and the e-mails that I've seen
- 22 indicate clearly that Anthony Harrison had direct
- 23 negotiations with Fame's counsel.
- And when Astrata's counsel, City Legal (pho),
- 25 instructed Mr. Harrison of the dangers of, you know,

- 1 bypassing the company counsel and dealing directly with
- 2 Fame counsel, Mr. Harrison basically told them not to worry
- 3 about it.
- 4 So it looked to me like Harrison and Euler were in
- 5 direct discussions with Fame, bypassing company's counsel
- 6 and their fiduciary obligations.
- 7 Q Okay.
- 8 Now the other irreparable harm that's -- that is
- 9 alleged to have taken place or will take place --
- 10 A Um-hmm.
- 11 Q -- is loss of customers?
- 12 A Um-hmm.
- 13 0 Okay.
- 14 Do you know anything about that and how necessary
- 15 Mr. Harrison is for the continuation of business with the
- 16 customers of Asia Pacific?
- 17 A Well, here's what I know. And one problem as part of
- 18 an equity investor we make, you know, we typically make in-
- 19 depth -- do relations of customers and make sure that the
- 20 customer relationship is there and the contracts are real.
- 21 In this case, the main customer is of such a
- 22 nature that they prefer not to communicate over e-mails or
- 23 phones and only prefer to have face-to-face meetings, which
- 24 is why we've had to have the independent director have
- 25 these discussions and feed us information from Tridex.

- 1 And our impression, based on those discussions,
- 2 are quite the opposite of what the management is
- 3 disclosing. We don't think Mr. Harrison or Euler are
- 4 necessary for the company going forward. As a matter of
- 5 fact, we think that Tridex would prefer management be
- 6 changed.
- 7 My understanding is that Mr. Harrison has been
- 8 unable to have meetings with the major customer.
- 9 I think he succeeded to have one limited meeting
- 10 two months ago, but certainly he hasn't -- doesn't have the
- 11 relationship he claims he has, whereas John Clough, the
- 12 independent director, has very good working relationship
- 13 with the major customer, the sixty -- hundred-million
- 14 dollar contract that we're talking about.
- 15 It is my understanding that John Clough together
- 16 with some other key people from Singapore are fully
- 17 competent and capable -- able and competent in running the
- 18 company. They will hit the ground running and Euler, and
- 19 Harrison are not necessary. As a matter of fact, I think
- 20 Tridex would, like I said, would prefer to have Mr.
- 21 Harrison mo --
- 22 THE COURT: What's the name of the customer?
- 23 THE WITNESS: Tridex.
- 24 THE COURT: T-r-i-d-e --
- THE WITNESS: T-r-i-d-e-x.

Uusiheimala - Direct

- 1 THE COURT: Thank you.
- 2 BY MS. THOMAS:
- 3 Q Would you be seeking to take control of the company if
- 4 you thought your control would destroy the company
- 5 business?
- 6 A Absolutely not.
- 7 Q And how much did you invest in this company?
- 8 A Thirty million dollars.
- 9 Q Okay.
- 10 You were invited by Mr. Bryan to file a competing
- 11 plan. Are you prepared to file a competing plan?
- 12 A Yes, we are.
- 13 Q And in fact if the Judge denies you the right to assume
- 14 control of this company and assuming that you get the
- 15 information that's required to examine the finances of the
- 16 subsidiary companies and the parent company, would you be
- 17 prepared to file a plan?
- 18 A We would file a plan. But I mean we'll need access to
- 19 the company and we'd need to know that our, you know,
- 20 conversion, you know, leads us to, you know -- enables us
- 21 to take control of the company.
- 22 THE COURT: Well, there's other ways of doing it,
- 23 such as --
- 24 THE WITNESS: Or replacing --
- 25 THE COURT: -- a plan of reorganization.

```
Uusiheimala - Direct
 1
             MS. THOMAS: Such as filing a competing plan?
 2
             THE COURT: Yeah.
 3
             THE WITNESS: Right.
 4
             THE COURT: So I'll determine --
             THE WITNESS: Right.
 5
 6
             THE COURT: -- the way to do it. Okay? Thank
 7
   you.
 8
             THE WITNESS: If I --
 9
   BY MS. THOMAS:
       Go ahead, Mr. --
10
11
        If I may add one more thing.
12
             I mean, to us we don't care whether we have
   control of the company as long as the company is run by
13
14
    independent board that looks after the interests of the
15
   shareholders like they should have done from the day one.
16
   Q
       Okay.
17
             In your opinion what's the value of a plan that
   provides 3.5 percent of the stock of the company?
18
19
   Α
        It's practically zero. It's nonexistent.
20
   0
        Okay.
21
             How about five percent of the "aggregate
   cumulative cash flow" --
22
        If they say --
23
   Α
24
       -- over two years?
25
   Α
        It's worth -- practically worthless.
```

- 1 Q And did you also have experience with the moneys that
- 2 were being spent by Mr. Harrison and by Astrata that have
- 3 led to some of the financial problems of this company?
- 4 A I mean these are the concerns that the independent
- 5 director has raised with us as the main shareholder. He's
- 6 under the impression and having had access to the company's
- 7 informa -- records --
- 8 THE COURT: I don't want to hear what he has to
- 9 say.
- 10 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 11 THE COURT: He hasn't even filed a declaration.
- 12 Sorry.
- MS. THOMAS: What --
- 14 THE COURT: I'm stopping it.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Fair enough.
- MR. BRILL: Thank you, your Honor.
- 17 THE COURT: We've had enough hearsay. I'm
- 18 stopping it. That's enough.
- 19 BY MS. THOMAS:
- 20 Q What did the financial information that was provided
- 21 for the company indicate were the expenditures by officers
- 22 and directors?
- THE COURT: Not what Mr. Clough told you, but what
- 24 you know --
- 25 THE WITNESS: We've seen --

Uusiheimala - Direct/Cross

- 1 THE COURT: -- of your own personal knowledge.
- 2 BY MR. THOMAS:
- 3 Q Right. From the financial --
- 4 A Right.
- 5 Q -- information filed by the company.
- 6 A We witnessed exorbitant travel expenses. I think
- 7 corporate salaries were excessive. The benefits that both
- 8 Harrison and Euler enjoy were excessive as well.
- 9 And we believed just by cutting those expenses the
- 10 company would probably be close to break-even.
- 11 Q Was the company spending money on new offices, for
- 12 example?
- 13 A Yes, they were.
- 14 Q All right.
- 15 A In Singapore. Lavish offices, if I may add.
- 16 I don't think they're in a position to, you know,
- 17 invest in offices at this point.
- 18 Q Okay.
- 19 Pass the witness.
- 20 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 21 BY MR. BRILL:
- 22 Q You indicated that Astrata went dark in June of 2009;
- 23 is that correct?
- 24 A Um-hmm.
- 25 Q That means it's not --

Uusiheimala - Cross

- 1 THE COURT: No. You have to answer audibly,
- 2 please.
- 3 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 4 THE COURT: Thank you.
- 5 BY MR. BRILL:
- 6 Q And that means it stopped filing its reports with the
- 7 SEC?
- 8 A Oh, May or June, yes. Stopped filing their --
- 9 basically they filed Form 15(g) -- 1512(g).
- 10 Q And were you present at a meeting with representatives
- 11 of Astrata when they explained the reasons for going dark?
- 12 A It was a phone conversation or an e-mail, not a
- 13 meeting.
- 14 Q Were you present at a meeting that was held in early
- 15 June of 2009 at your offices with myself, Mr. Euler, Mr.
- 16 Clough and Mr. Tony Bryan?
- 17 A No.
- 18 Q And so you don't know at that meeting that it was
- 19 discussed the reasons why the company was going dark at
- 20 that time?
- 21 A I have a good rapport with Andy and I got very good
- 22 briefing of that meeting.
- 23 Q And you're saying that you weren't advised as a result
- 24 of that meeting that the company was advised of the Fame
- 25 loan to the subsidiary Asia Pacific at that time?

Uusiheimala - Cross

70

1 A No.

- Was this prior -- this was at the meeting at --
- 3 Q This was at the meeting I think that was at your
- 4 offices that I was at.
- 5 A Prior to the company going dark or after the company
- 6 going dark?
- 7 Q It was just subsequent to the company going dark.
- 8 A Subsequent to the company going dark. Yes.
- 9 Q Just subsequent?
- 10 A Yes. We learned about the company -- company's
- 11 transaction with Fame after they went dark.
- 12 Q And that was --
- 13 THE COURT: But you told me that you'd learned
- 14 that upon the filing of the 8(k).
- Mr. Brill is asking whether Vision was informed at
- 16 the time of that meeting which was prior to the filing of
- 17 the 8(k).
- MR. BRILL: That's correct, your Honor.
- 19 THE WITNESS: That's fair enough.
- I think now that my memory comes back, I think
- 21 Andy, Andy Merkatz was in that meeting. He learned some
- 22 details about some financing that was going on. Full
- 23 details came appearing to us in the filing.
- 24 But it was all subsequent to, subsequent to the
- 25 company going dark. Obviously it wasn't disclosed to us

Uusiheimala - Cross

- 1 before that.
- 2 BY MR. BRILL:
- 3 Q You indicated that you're aware of some fees that were
- 4 being paid to Watley for putting together a loan?
- 5 A Um-hmm. Yes, based on the agreement that was
- 6 disclosed.
- 7 Q And do you know if any fees were paid to Watley?
- 8 A No.
- 9 Q You indicated that Vision has the ability to finance
- 10 the reorganization --
- 11 A Uh-huh.
- 12 Q -- and the equity.
- 13 Is Vision prepared to finance the reorganization
- 14 and the subsidiary company?
- 15 A Yes. We manage about six hundred and fifty million
- 16 dollars and we certainly have the wherewithal to finance
- 17 the company.
- 18 Again we would need to know what is going on and
- 19 confirm some of our suspicions.
- 20 Q Do you have personal knowledge with regard to whether
- 21 or not Mr. Harrison meets with Tridex?
- 22 A No personal knowledge, no.
- 23 Q Do you know that Mr. Harrison meets with Tridex at
- 24 least on a weekly or biweekly basis?
- 25 A No, I don't know that.

Uusiheimala - Cross

- 1 Q The source of your information is Mr. Clough?
- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q And you know that the debtor company has a dispute with
- 4 Mr. Clough and has targeted him as being a potential party
- 5 to a lawsuit?
- 6 A I'm aware of the allegations, yes.
- 7 Q Were you advised as a result of that meeting in the
- 8 early -- in early June that the company was unable to
- 9 obtain equity from other sources due to the condition of
- 10 the market and due to the fact in the company's view that
- 11 the preferred stock of Vision discouraged any equity
- 12 investments?
- 13 A I was informed by the banker himself that his efforts
- 14 to try to raise capital for the company were blocked by the
- 15 management in form of them not responding to his e-mails,
- 16 calls or information requests.
- 17 THE COURT: Who informed you of that?
- 18 THE WITNESS: Todd DeMateo of Dominic & Dominic,
- 19 who is the lead vendor.
- 20 BY MR. BRILL:
- 21 Q And you indicated that the company has refused to
- 22 listen to any offers from Mr. DeMateo.
- 23 Are you aware of any written offers that were made
- 24 through Mr. DeMateo?
- 25 A That's at the -- how the pros work. You don't get

Uusiheimala - Cross

- 1 written offering -- written offers before the company --
- 2 the clients have a possibility to do due diligence which
- 3 the management has effectively followed.
- 4 Q Do you know if Mr. DeMateo -
- 5 THE COURT: So that would mean there are no
- 6 written offers?
- 7 THE WITNESS: No. No written offers.
- 8 THE COURT: That was the question.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- 10 THE COURT: That's the answer?
- 11 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 12 THE COURT: Thank you.
- 13 BY MR. BRILL:
- 14 Q And are you aware of the fact that Mr. DeMateo was
- 15 requested by the company to obtain a written proposal
- 16 before -- so that the company could vet any potential
- 17 offers?
- 18 A No, I'm not aware.
- 19 MR. BRILL: I have no further questions, your
- 20 Honor.
- 21 THE COURT: Thank you.
- 22 Redirect?
- 23 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 24 BY MS. THOMAS:
- 25 Q Mr. Uusiheimala, what is required in order to have a

Uusiheimala - Redirect

- 1 written offer from a capital investor or a lender?
- 2 A Well, first of all the -- you know, the potential
- 3 investor needs to understand the company's financials.
- 4 They need to understand, you know, they need to do due
- 5 diligence of a company. And then typically they would come
- 6 up with a term sheet which they would negotiate with the
- 7 company the terms of the financing and go out there and
- 8 solicit the offering.
- 9 But it requires the company's cooperation and
- 10 information disclosure.
- 11 Q And that's what didn't happen in this case?
- 12 A Never happened, no.
- 13 0 Okay.
- 14 Are you also aware of potential buyers for this
- 15 company?
- 16 A Todd DeMateo has disclosed to me there is a company
- 17 that is a company of Astrata which is very int -- very keen
- 18 and interested in pursuing a merger and/or a buyout of
- 19 Astrata.
- 20 But obviously those negotiations have not been --
- 21 have not led anywhere because of the current situation of
- 22 the company.
- MS. THOMAS: Pass the witness.
- THE COURT: Thank you. You may step down.
- 25 Any other witnesses?

```
1
            MS. THOMAS: No, your Honor.
 2
             I would just like the Court though --
 3
            THE COURT: No other witnesses?
 4
            MS. THOMAS: No other witnesses, your Honor.
 5
    Thank you.
 6
             I would though object to the declarations of Mr.
 7
   Euler --
 8
             THE COURT: No. I'm going to allow them.
 9
            Go ahead and make your objection.
            MS. THOMAS:
10
                          Yeah.
11
             THE COURT: I've heard hearsay from your witness.
12
    I'm just at the temporary restraining order phase and I
13
    just was going back through them.
14
            Mr. Bryan's declaration of October 6, for example,
15
   he states:
16
             "The debtor has been contacted by concerned
17
             customers." That's not hearsay. "And the
18
             landlord with threats of term" --
19
            MS. THOMAS: Well --
             THE COURT: Let me finish.
20
             "-- threats of termination of non-debtor."
21
22
             Fine. He's saying that's what they've been
23
   contacted with. That doesn't go to establish the truth the
   statement, simply reporting what they have been told.
24
            And I don't know if these people are really going
25
```

- 1 to pull their contracts. I understand that.
- 2 I've also looked once again. And there are some
- 3 issues regarding these declarations.
- 4 But the witness I just heard had very little
- 5 personal knowledge of most of what he testified to.
- 6 But I need that information in order so that I can
- 7 exercise my discretion. And I'm willing to consider it.
- 8 MS. THOMAS: Thank you.
- 9 THE COURT: And that's the same analysis that I
- 10 apply to these declarations.
- 11 And I know these people aren't here.
- 12 And before I would ever issue a permanent
- 13 injunction or perhaps even a preliminary injunction, I
- 14 would require a far more vigorous evidentiary proceeding.
- 15 MS. THOMAS: We appreciate that, your Honor.
- I would also ask the Court in terms of irreparable
- 17 harm to take note of the terms of the plan itself and the
- 18 disclosure statement in terms of what these people, the
- 19 people who are signing declarations, are getting.
- 20 THE COURT: I under -- I fully understand that.
- 21 MS. THOMAS: Okay. And I know your Honor reads
- 22 everything.
- 23 I did want to point out that in -- back in the
- 24 back of the disclosure statement, when they discuss the
- 25 original plan--it's on Page -- document 41-1 in the main

- 77
- 1 case on Page 7--they discuss that Fame is giving 20 percent
- 2 of the stock of this company to off -- options for 20
- 3 percent of the stock of the company to officers and
- 4 directors.
- 5 Yeah. So that's who you're looking at.
- In terms of the motivation of this, in terms of
- 7 the motivation behind these declarations, I think the Court
- 8 has to take into consideration that these people are not
- 9 disinterested.
- 10 And, you know, they may be officers and directors
- 11 of the debtor. But this plan is a management buyout plan.
- 12 THE COURT: Okay.
- MS. THOMAS: Everyone is getting nothing. Where
- 14 is there to go but up from this one?
- 15 THE COURT: Thank you.
- MS. THOMAS: Thank you.
- 17 THE COURT: Mr. Brill, do you have any witnesses
- 18 you want to put on the stand?
- 19 MR. BRILL: Yes, your Honor. I'd like to call Mr.
- 20 John Bryan to the stand.
- 21 THE COURT: Thank you.
- 22 ANTHONY JOHN ADRIAN BRYAN, JR., DEBTOR'S WITNESS, SWORN.
- 23 THE COURT: Please state your full name and spell
- 24 your last.
- 25 THE WITNESS: John Bryan.

Bryan - Court Examination 1 THE COURT: What is your full name? THE WITNESS: Anthony John Adrian Bryan, Jr. 2 3 THE COURT: And who's your father? 4 THE WITNESS: Anthony John Adrian Bryan. 5 THE COURT: And was he a member of the board of 6 directors of this entity? 7 THE WITNESS: Yes, he is. THE COURT: All right. 8 9 And what is your role with this ent -- with the debtor? 10 11 THE WITNESS: My role is chief restructuring 12 officer. 13 THE COURT: And how long have you been the chief 14 restructuring officer? 15 THE WITNESS: Since August 8th of '9. 16 THE COURT: August 8th of 2009? 17 THE WITNESS: Correct. 18 THE COURT: And what is -- are you being paid 19 thirty-two thousand five hundred dollars a month? 20 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. 21 THE COURT: And have those payments been paid 22 current? THE WITNESS: No, your Honor, they haven't. 23 24 THE COURT: When was the last time you've been 25 paid?

79 Bryan - Court Examination 1 THE WITNESS: The last time I've been paid for 2 chief restructuring officer work was I think in August, 3 sir. 4 THE COURT: So how much have you been paid for your services as chief restructuring officer? 5 6 THE WITNESS: Actually by the debtor, zero. I'm 7 I'm sorry. sorry. 8 THE COURT: And who had paid you anything? 9 THE WITNESS: Prior to the filing for Chapter 11 I was engaged by a shareholder, Jaker Investments, Limited as 10 a candidate for chief restructuring officer. And they were 11 paying me a monthly fee to advise on how to get the company 12 13 restructured. 14 THE COURT: And that's the same entity that 15 introduced the debtor to Fame Trading? 16 THE WITNESS: That's correct. 17 THE COURT: And when did you be -- you became chief restructuring officer on the 8th --18 THE WITNESS: August 8th. 19 20 THE COURT: Post-pet--21 THE WITNESS: Post-petition. 22 MR. BRILL: Of August --23 THE COURT: When was this case filed? 24 MR. BRILL: August 6th. I think he was appointed

on August 7th, if I'm not mistaken, your Honor.

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80
                     Bryan - Court Examination
 1
             THE COURT: That type of employment typically,
   chief restructuring officer, don't --
 3
            MR. BRILL: He's not -- it's not -- your Honor,
 4
    that's just the title.
 5
            THE COURT: Well, yeah. But that's a fairly
 6
    significant title.
 7
            MR. BRILL: Well, your Honor, it's no different
    than -- it's like chief executive officer or chief
 8
 9
    financial officer, which this company already had.
            THE COURT: This is a large salary for a company
10
11
    that had two thousand dollars in its bank account when it
12
   filed.
13
            Who's paying it? Who's paying it?
14
            MR. BRILL: Your Honor, it has not been paid. It
   has not been paid yet. It will be paid --
15
16
            THE COURT: Have you received any payment as the
    chief restructuring officer?
17
18
            THE WITNESS: No, your Honor.
19
            THE COURT: You indicated to me that -- you said
   not from the debtor. What did that mean?
20
             THE WITNESS: Prior to the filing for Chapter 11,
21
    I was being paid by an engagement from Jaker Investments to
22
   be the candidate or chief restructuring advisor.
23
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THE COURT: How much were you paid by -- is it

24

25

Jaker?

81 Bryan - Court Examination 1 THE WITNESS: Jaker Investments was paying Yes. 2 me approximately thirty-two thousand a month. 3 THE COURT: And how much did that entity pay you? 4 THE WITNESS: It paid me approximate -- since -they engaged me in January, so I was paid from January 5 6 through August. 7 THE COURT: Okay. 8 And please describe to me your relationship, if 9 any, with Fame Trading. 10 THE WITNESS: I have none. 11 THE COURT: Do you have any type -- you or your 12 father have any type of an agreement to be paid a commission or any other remuneration, based upon any 13 14 transaction or transactions with Fame? 15 THE WITNESS: No, your Honor. THE COURT: I just heard testimony that there was 16 17 a five-percent commission that was to be paid to your 18 company of which you are a principal. 19 THE WITNESS: It's not my -- it is to Jaker. 20 agreements state clearly that Jaker Investments, Limited is 21 the entity which has a five-percent commission. 22 THE COURT: And do you share in that at all? THE WITNESS: No, your Honor. Only in the salary 23 that I received my chief restructuring work. 24

THE COURT: For which you have not been paid?

Bryan - Court Examination

- 1 THE WITNESS: For the -- prior to the Chapter 11,
- 2 Jaker was paying me from the January period to August.
- 3 THE COURT: And why did Jaker get -- what did
- 4 Jaker -- what was Jaker's arrangement with Fame?
- 5 THE WITNESS: They got a five-percent commission
- 6 and then I believe another five percent on September 30th,
- 7 on or about September 30th.
- 8 THE COURT: Five percent of what?
- 9 THE WITNESS: Five percent of the aggregate amount
- 10 funded to the subsidiary or parent.
- 11 THE COURT: Okay.
- We know that at that time the facility was a
- 13 hundred and fifty thousand dollars to the debtor.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Yes, your Honor.
- 15 THE COURT: So it would have been five percent of
- 16 that amount.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yes, your Honor.
- 18 THE COURT: And five percent of 8.5 million?
- 19 THE WITNESS: No. It would have just been five
- 20 percent of the amount funded of the 8.5 million.
- 21 THE COURT: So it would be five percent of two
- 22 hundred and fifty-five thousand because that's funded to
- 23 AGI?
- 24 THE WITNESS: Yes, your Honor.
- 25 THE COURT: And five percent of more than four

83 Bryan - Court Examination million dollars? 1 2 THE WITNESS: Yes, your Honor. 3 THE COURT: Okay. 4 And that was paid to Jaker? 5 THE WITNESS: Yes, your Honor. THE COURT: And you received nothing from that? 6 7 THE WITNESS: Absolutely nothing. THE COURT: And you have not -- when was that 8 9 commission paid to Jaker? 10 THE WITNESS: I believe upon each funding. Every time that Jaker funded -- I mean Fame funded, Jaker 11 12 received its commission. 13 THE COURT: All right. 14 Is Jaker to receive any type of a commission, based upon the post-petition funding that is set forth in 15 the disclosure statement, which is new money of about three 16 17 million seven hundred and eighty-five thousand dollars? 18 THE WITNESS: I believe so, your Honor. I'm not 19 certain of that. I'm not certain. 20 THE COURT: It's not disclosed in the disclosure 21 statement. 22 THE WITNESS: No, sir. No, your Honor. THE COURT: What is the position of Jaker -- or 23 excuse me -- what is the relationship of Jaker with the 25 debtor?

84 Bryan - Court Examination 1 THE WITNESS: It has just been -- just introduced Fame Trading, the entity which was -- funded the loan. 2 3 THE COURT: Why would it do that? 4 THE WITNESS: Because they were a shareholder and they were one of the original founders. 5 6 THE COURT: That's my question. 7 Is it -- does Jaker have an equity interest in the debtor? 8 9 THE WITNESS: Jaker may or may not. I don't know, your Honor. I'm not part of Jaker, so I don't know if 10 11 they're a shareholder or not. 12 THE COURT: In the declaration it said that Jaker introduced Fame to the debtor. 13 14 THE WITNESS: Yes, your Honor. 15 THE COURT: Through you? THE WITNESS: Not through me. They had -- they 16 17 were also one of the founding shareholders. 18 THE COURT: Of? 19 THE WITNESS: Of Astrata. 20 THE COURT: Okay. So we know that --21 22 THE WITNESS: And so was Tim Harmon, the principal of Fame. So they knew each other from that time period. 23 24 THE COURT: All right.

THE WITNESS: They were both initial investors in

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Bryan - Court Examination
 1
   the initial funding of the company.
 2
             THE COURT: There was just a reference made to the
 3
   disclosure statement. And let's pull that out.
 4
        (Pause in proceedings)
 5
             THE COURT: Docket number 41-1.
 6
             MS. THOMAS: At the top it says Page 7 of 85, your
 7
   Honor.
             THE COURT: I'm there.
 8
 9
        (Pause in proceedings)
             MS. THOMAS: I have it marked in pink so you can
10
11
   see it.
12
             THE COURT: Well, I -- .
13
        (Pause in proceedings)
14
             THE COURT: This apparently -- Mr. Brill, when I
   read the disclosure statement, as I understood what this
15
   disclosure document was restructuring is what was
16
   circulated as part of the out-of-court attempted
17
   resolution.
18
19
             Is that correct?
20
             MR. BRILL: That's correct, your Honor.
21
             THE COURT: Because it accompanies your letter of
22
   July 16, 2009; isn't that correct?
             MR. BRILL: That's correct, your Honor.
23
24
             THE COURT: All right.
25
             And this -- I did not study this in-depth because
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86 Bryan - Court Examination

- 1 I was more concerned about what I had in front of me, and
- 2 since this was not approved I was more concerned about what
- 3 I would -- .
- 4 Now let me ask you this, Mr. Bryan. Is there any
- 5 agreement or understanding that any of the equity that Fame
- 6 would acquire as a result of a confirmed plan of
- 7 reorganization, as proposed, would be subject to any right
- 8 by existing management, officers or directors to
- 9 participate?
- 10 THE WITNESS: At this time there's no agreement
- 11 whatsoever.
- 12 THE COURT: What does that mean --
- 13 THE WITNESS: There is --
- 14 THE COURT: -- at this time?
- THE WITNESS: Well, there's -- the -- the lender
- 16 Fame has discussed with management and said we want to have
- 17 you either post-petition or during the course of the
- 18 bankruptcy enter into agreements which would include
- 19 management getting an equity position in the company.
- 20 THE COURT: That should be in a disclosure
- 21 statement, shouldn't it?
- 22 MR. BRILL: The discussions, your Honor?
- 23 THE COURT: I think that the fact that the lender
- 24 may in fact be encouraging management to enter into some
- 25 type of an arrangement where management may in fact obtain

87 Bryan - Court Examination some equity in the reorganized debtor, I think that's 1 2 germane. 3 MR. BRILL: Your Honor? 4 THE COURT: And as a hypothetical investor, don't you think I'd want to know that, Mr. Brill? 5 6 MR. BRILL: Your Honor, the -- my understanding is 7 is that there's -- it was discussed there being a proposed 8 employee stock --9 THE WITNESS: -- stock option plan. 10 MR. BRILL: -- stock option plan. I did -- okay? 11 THE COURT: The fact that that's even proposed, --12 MR. BRILL: I'll -- I'll -- okay. I'll --No. THE COURT: -- I think should be in there. 13 14 MR. BRILL: Okay. I'll add to the disclosure statement that there's a proposed stock option plan of 15 which management may participate. 16 17 THE COURT: I would like to know the terms of the proposal. 18 19 MR. BRILL: I -- your Honor, I don't know of any. 20 THE COURT: I think you should find out. 21 MR. BRILL: Okay. I don't --22 THE WITNESS: What I have heard Fame say --THE COURT: I don't care what Fame -- I now know 23 24 there's a proposal. 25 Counsel for Fame is here. I want the terms of

- 1 that proposal in the disclosure statement.
- 2 MR. BRILL: Yeah. I don't know if there is --
- 3 well, I'll find out.
- 4 THE COURT: Then just state --
- 5 MR. BRILL: Okay.
- 6 THE COURT: -- that I think that then that should
- 7 be disclosed that there was testimony that there may be a
- 8 stock option plan. And upon further investigation either
- 9 place what the terms of the proposal were in the disclosure
- 10 statement or the fact that there will not be any such
- 11 proposal.
- We need an answer to the question.
- 13 MR. BRILL: Fine, your Honor.
- 14 THE COURT: I think that's important.
- MR. BRILL: Okay.
- 16 THE COURT: Do you have any questions? I found
- 17 out a whole lot. Do you have any questions?
- 18 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 19 BY MR. BRILL:
- 20 Q Mr. Bryan, could you describe your describe your steps
- 21 that you've taken to try and obtain financing or a
- 22 transaction for Astrata in connection with the bankruptcy
- 23 case other than the Fame transaction?
- 24 A Well, I'm really cur -- I'm really handling most of
- 25 those discussions. I'm in discussions with two or three

- 1 parties right now, at a fairly significant stage, to try to
- 2 create an alternative plan to the Fame, I'll call it the
- 3 Fame plan which is the plan that is the existing plan.
- 4 So we have ongoing discussions with two or three
- 5 of -- I guess it's exactly three groups, one of which is
- 6 more advanced than the other two.
- 7 And of course the Fame discussions, I've been in
- 8 ongoing negotiations with them.
- 9 Q And Mr. Bryan, are you aware of the relationship
- 10 between the debtor and Tridex in connection with that
- 11 contract which has been referred to previously by the
- 12 previous witness?
- 13 A Yes, I am.
- 14 Q And --
- 15 A As well as other customers.
- 16 Q And do you know if --
- 17 A And I've directly met with many of those customers.
- 18 Q Right.
- 19 THE COURT: Why don't you let your lawyer ask the
- 20 question. Okay?
- MR. BRILL: Okay. Yeah.
- 22 BY MR. BRILL:
- 23 Q Did you travel to Singapore to meet with management of
- 24 the debtor?
- 25 A Yes, on several occasions.

- 1 O And was the Tridex contract discussed?
- 2 A At length.
- 3 Q And do you know if Mr. Harrison has met with the Tridex
- 4 parties?
- 5 A Yes, he does on an -- on an infrequent basis. There
- 6 are operational meetings virtually every week.
- 7 Q And do you know the scope of that contract?
- 8 A Yes, I do. It's a contract to supply approximately six
- 9 hundred thousand tracking systems.
- 10 Q And what is the estimate of the debtor -- or do you
- 11 know what the estimate of the subsidiary is to carry out
- 12 that contract, to perform that contract; how much it will
- 13 cost?
- 14 A Approximately in the realm of about seventy million or
- 15 thereabouts.
- 16 Q I'm sorry. What's the --
- 17 A Approximately seventy to seventy-five million dollars.
- 18 Q I'm talking about the cost, I'm sorry, the cost to
- 19 perform the contract.
- 20 A Yes. The cost to perform. So therefore the margin, is
- 21 that what you're asking?
- 22 THE COURT: No. He asked you the cost. You
- 23 answered the question.
- MR. BRILL: Yes. Okay.
- 25 THE WITNESS: Yeah. I think I answered.

- 1 THE COURT: What would be the profit, assuming
- 2 that's the cost?
- 3 THE WITNESS: The management estimate is anywhere
- 4 between twenty-two million and about thirty million,
- 5 depending on what the final contracts are for the
- 6 suppliers.
- 7 There's further costs for the actual manufacture,
- 8 but since that's for the working capital to build the units
- 9 and then supply them, there's a considerable cash flow to -
- 10 -for a 90-day period to do that.
- 11 BY MR. BRILL:
- 12 Q Has the debtor suffered monetarily as a result of the
- 13 filing of the bankruptcy case in connection with the Tridex
- 14 contract?
- 15 A Yes, it has.
- 16 Q In what respect?
- 17 A Tridex has already withheld several payments that they
- 18 usually make, which are approximately two hundred thousand
- 19 a month, and they've withheld the last two payments to the
- 20 total of four hundred thousand.
- 21 THE COURT: Those payments go to Asia Pacific?
- THE WITNESS: Yes, they do.
- 23 BY MR. BRILL:
- 24 Q And did they indicate that those payments would resume
- 25 once the debtor is out of bankruptcy?

- 1 A Once they -- the way they've termed it, once there's a
- 2 resolution and they're confident of how this is going to
- 3 turn out, how the bankruptcy process is going to -- that
- 4 it's not going to result in liquidation, that the company
- 5 will still be in business.
- 6 So there's great concern over what this is, if I
- 7 may say it that way.
- 8 Q Mr. Bryan, are you aware of the fact that Vision has
- 9 contacted certain former employees and employees of Asia
- 10 Pacific?
- 11 A Yes, I am.
- 12 Q And what was the nature of that contact?
- 13 A They've been working with a fellow by the name of Hoyt
- 14 Larsen, I believe that -- Liten--don't know how to
- 15 pronounce his last name--who was the former chief technical
- 16 officer, and a number of other employees and John Clough, a
- 17 gentleman by the name of Robin Littell whom they've been
- 18 sort of trying to assemble a management team that would be
- 19 sort of a replacement management team for the existing
- 20 team.
- 21 Q And are you aware of any documentation that exists with
- 22 regard to agreement between Tridex and Mr. Harrison in
- 23 connection with his relationship and employment by Astrata?
- 24 A Yes, I am. There's an agreement -- or there an
- 25 agreement that --

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Bryan - Cross
 1
                          Your Honor, again I --
            MS. THOMAS:
 2
             THE COURT: He can tell me what he knows.
 3
             MR. BRILL: Yes.
 4
            MS. THOMAS: I think the agreement is subject to
   the best evidence rule, isn't it?
 5
 6
             THE COURT: It would be. And at some point --
 7
             THE WITNESS: Sure.
             THE COURT: -- I'd like to see it.
 8
 9
             But he can tell me what he knows or his
10
   understanding.
            MR. BRILL: Your Honor, if we're to produce the
11
12
    agreement I would ask that it shown only in camera. It's a
    confidence -- that's a highly confident --
13
14
             THE COURT: There's way of dealing with that
15
   pursuant to the rules.
16
            MR. BRILL: Yeah. It's a highly confidential
17
    agreement, your Honor. So.
18
            But you are aware --
19
             THE COURT: Well then, I don't want to hear any
   testimony about it.
20
21
             THE WITNESS: Yeah.
22
             MR. BRILL: But I just wanted --
23
             THE COURT: That's fine.
24
            MR. BRILL: -- to establish that he's aware of it.
25
             THE COURT: I'm not going to listen now when he
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- Bryan Cross
- 1 can't tell me about it.
- 2 MR. BRILL: Right.
- 3 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 4 THE COURT: It doesn't make any sense to me.
- 5 MR. BRILL: I don't have any further questions,
- 6 your Honor.
- 7 THE COURT: Cross.
- 8 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 9 BY MS. THOMAS:
- 10 Q Mr. Bryan, at the meeting of creditors you and I had
- 11 some dialogue about the issuance of preferred shares in
- 12 Astrata; correct? I mean not Astrata, Asia Pacific;
- 13 correct?
- 14 A I don't believe so about Asia Pacific.
- 15 Q Well, recall that I discussed with you why it was that
- 16 during the pendency of the bankruptcy case shares had been
- 17 issued --
- 18 A I don't believe we discussed that --
- 19 O -- out of Asia Pacific?
- 20 A -- at the 341(a) meet -- hearing.
- 21 O And you said that there was a board of directors
- 22 meeting that approved it so you didn't need bankruptcy
- 23 court approval?
- 24 A For the subsidiary loan?
- 25 Q Yes, for the subsidiary shares.

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1 A Correct. For the renewal of the --

- 3 Q Yeah.
- 4 A -- subsidiary loan with Fame Trading.
- 5 The Fame Trading loan ended in August on its 90-
- 6 day initial term and it had to be renegotiated in order to
- 7 get more funding.
- 8 And that loan facility was renewed and at the
- 9 subsidiary level and the terms of that were negotiated and
- 10 the loan was renewed. That's correct.
- 11 Q Right. And we discussed the fact that the warrants,
- 12 debentures, whatever there were issued to Fame during the
- 13 bankruptcy case, required approval of the board of
- 14 directors of Astrata; correct?
- 15 A There were no warrants issued to Fame Trading.
- 16 Q Isn't that -- a debenture was issued. Correct?
- 17 A A -- the loan was --
- 18 Q Just yes or no, Mr. Bryan.
- 19 A -- renewed.
- 20 O And a debenture was issued; correct?
- 21 A A debenture was not. It was renew -- no, it wasn't. A
- 22 new debenture was not issued.
- MR. DUNAGAN: Preferred shares.
- 24 BY MS. THOMAS:
- 25 O Preferred shares were issued?

Cross 96

- 1 A Preferred shares were issued as part of the renewal of
- 2 the loan facility, that's correct.
- 3 Q Okay.
- 4 And they were issued during the pendency of this
- 5 bankruptcy case; correct?
- 6 A They were not issued at the AGI level, they were issued
- 7 at the Asia Pacific level.
- 8 Q Right. But the shares or the stockholder interest of
- 9 Asia Pacific is property of this bankruptcy estate; isn't
- 10 that true?
- 11 A The common stock of the subsidiary is property of the
- 12 bankruptcy estate and that common stock was not interfered
- 13 with, the voting of that or no other impairment to that
- 14 common stock.
- 15 Q I think -- Mr. Bryan, I think the answer to the
- 16 question was that preferred stock was issued to Asia
- 17 Pacific during the pendency of this bankruptcy estate.
- 18 THE COURT: No, that's not true. Preferred stock
- 19 was issued of Asia Pacific.
- 20 MS. THOMAS: Of Asia Pacific.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- MS. THOMAS: Correct.
- 23 THE COURT: And that's clear. I've got the
- 24 exhibit.
- 25 THE WITNESS: Right.

- 1 BY MS. THOMAS:
- 2 Q Now you discussed the relationship of Jaker Investments
- 3 to bringing Fame into this loan transaction.
- 4 You and your father, I believe, have a company
- 5 called Watley Investments?
- 6 A Correct. It's not my father.
- 7 Q Okay.
- 8 A My father --
- 9 Q It's you.
- 10 A -- retired from it in 2000.
- 11 Q Okay.
- So your father retired from Watley. What was your
- 13 father's relationship with Astrata?
- 14 A He was on the board of directors.
- 15 Q Okay.
- When was he put on the board of directors?
- 17 A I believe in 2004, although I'm not exactly certain.
- 18 Q Okay.
- 19 And how did that happen?
- 20 A Mr. Harrison and Mr. Euler invited him to go onto the
- 21 board of directors.
- 22 Q Okay.
- Now what is the relationship between Watley and
- 24 Jaker?
- 25 A There is no relationship other than an engagement.

- 1 Q Okay.
- 2 And what is the engagement?
- 3 A The engagement is for me to provide chief restructuring
- 4 officer service -- or restructuring services as Jaker
- 5 requests since, I believe it was in January. I'm not
- 6 exactly certain of the date it was signed.
- 7 Q And Watley continues to have that engagement with
- 8 Jaker?
- 9 A Watley does continue to have that engagement with
- 10 Jaker. although since the filing of the bankruptcy case it
- 11 has been really put on hold because now I've been actually
- 12 formally appointed as chief restructuring officer.
- 13 0 Okay.
- 14 And what's the compensation that Watley gets
- 15 through that employment agreement with Jaker?
- 16 A Watley was prior to the bankruptcy case being filed,
- 17 receiving I believe it was thirty-two or thirty-five
- 18 thousand dollars per month --
- 19 Q Okay.
- 20 A -- since January.
- 21 Q Is there a commission component --
- 22 A None.
- 23 Q -- of the Watley relationship with Jaker?
- 24 A No.
- 25 Q Okay.

- I believe you said that you knew that there were
- 2 operational meetings between Tridex and Asia Pacific;
- 3 right?
- 4 A Well, they're constantly --
- 5 Q All right.
- 6 A -- those are constant over a period time.
- 7 0 Okay.
- 8 But you don't know of any executive meetings, at
- 9 the executive level?
- 10 A Yes, I am. There have been executive meetings.
- 11 THE COURT: He said infrequent.
- 12 BY MS. THOMAS:
- 13 O Infrequent?
- 14 A Correct.
- 15 Q When was the last one?
- 16 A As is normal. Over the past two years --
- 17 Q Now when --
- 18 A -- my estimate would be every two months.
- 19 Q Okay.
- When was the last one?
- 21 A Two months ago.
- 22 Q Okay.
- You've accused I believe Mr. Clough of interfering
- 24 with the relationship with Tridex; correct?
- 25 A Can you repeat that?

- 1 Q Yes. You -- I believe one of the allegations that the
- 2 debtor has made is that Mr. Clough, the independent
- 3 director, is attempting to interfere with the relationship
- 4 with Tridex?
- 5 A I don't believe we've accused Mr. Clough of interfering
- 6 with the relationship with Tridex. We've accused him of
- 7 other things, but I'm not sure -- I don't believe he's ever
- 8 met with nor discussed anything directly with Tridex.
- 9 Q You don't know whether he has or not, do you?
- 10 THE COURT: He just said he -- what he believed.
- 11 BY MS. THOMAS:
- 12 Q You said you believe. You don't know?
- 13 A I believe. I believe that and I believe that through
- 14 the --
- 15 Q Do you know, Mr. Bryan?
- 16 THE COURT: You asked him what he believed.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yeah.
- 18 THE COURT: And he can tell you and he can tell
- 19 you why.
- Go ahead.
- 21 THE WITNESS: I believe that to be true because
- 22 our discussions as of this week with Tridex and their
- 23 representatives have been that they've never met with Mr.
- 24 Clough, nor never discussed this contract with him.
- 25 BY MS. THOMAS:

- 1 Q Who did you -- who at Tridex told you this this week?
- 2 A Tridex's counsel and Tridex's --
- 3 Q What -- excuse me. Who is Tridex --
- 4 A -- operational manager of this contract.
- 5 Q Okay.
- 6 Who is Tridex's counsel?
- 7 A I'm not -- I don't remember his name. He works for a
- 8 law firm in Singapore.
- 9 Q Okay.
- 10 And who is the manager?
- 11 A Again I'd have to look at my notes to see what his name
- 12 is.
- 13 And I think they'd prefer to be fairly --
- MS. THOMAS: Could I have a minute?
- 15 THE COURT: It doesn't matter. I don't care what
- 16 they prefer.
- 17 (Discussion off the record between Ms. Thomas and Mr.
- 18 Uusiheimala)
- MS. THOMAS: Pass the witness.
- 20 THE COURT: Redirect?
- MR. BRILL: None, your Honor.
- 22 THE COURT: You may step down.
- THE WITNESS: Thank you, your Honor.
- 24 THE COURT: Any further witnesses, Mr. Brill?
- MR. BRILL: No, your Honor.

- 1 THE COURT: All right. Then the evidentiary
- 2 portion of this hearing is concluded.
- 3 All right. Here's what I understand, based upon
- 4 the evidence that I've read and the evidence that I've
- 5 heard and the documents that I've studied.
- 6 This is not all that remarkable. We have a
- 7 governance dispute.
- 8 We have diametrically opposed rendition of how
- 9 this company finds itself in the position it is in based
- 10 upon a certain amount of speculation, misunderstanding and
- 11 probably a failure to be as open and transparent as one
- 12 would expect, probably the result of both parties being
- 13 very suspicious of the motive of the other parties.
- One party believes that existing management has
- 15 acted in a manner that caused economic damage to the
- 16 corporation in furtherance of their own self-interest.
- 17 Present management doesn't think that's what
- 18 occurred.
- 19 I do not know what exactly would be the correct
- 20 evaluation of management's performance.
- I am somewhat troubled by the fact that it would
- 22 appear that certain information that might be appropriate
- 23 and to be disclosed, consistent with the laws of the state
- 24 of the incorporation of the debtor and with the articles
- 25 and bylaws of the corporation, should be available.

- 1 However complaints about the failure to provide
- 2 that disclosure, when there has been no evidence other than
- 3 the testimony I heard today of the requests that were
- 4 denied, are problematic for me.
- 5 It should have been no surprise to Vision that the
- 6 debtor would be seeking the type of relief that it is
- 7 seeking today based upon the correspondence and the
- 8 rejection of the earlier plan that was attempted to be
- 9 arrived at consensually out of court.
- 10 It is of far more benefit to I think any trier of
- 11 fact to be aware prior to the time of the hearing of the
- 12 position taken in opposition to the requested relief.
- I am fully cognizant of the short time period.
- 14 But I would point out the Court was able to read these
- 15 pleadings to be able to arrive at certain -- or to be able
- 16 to educate itself.
- 17 I was aware that there was no deadline for a
- 18 response to the order shortening time to consider the
- 19 request for a temporary restraining order.
- 20 But there had been a previous opposition to the ex
- 21 parte request for conditional approval of the disclosure
- 22 statement and still there's no opposition filed to the
- 23 disclosure statement in front of me.
- 24 If Vision intended or thought that it had the
- 25 ability to finance on the same terms as contained in the

- 1 disclosure statement, I would have expected to see
- 2 something that would indicate that.
- 3 Likely, in the same vein, I would have expected to
- 4 see some type of a response to the motion for debtor-in-
- 5 possession financing that Vision was prepared to go forward
- 6 on the same terms.
- 7 More than adequate notice was given regarding both
- 8 those matters.
- 9 And I think it is only appropriate to look at the
- 10 totality of the circumstances of this case at this point in
- 11 rendering a decision on the request for a temporary
- 12 restraining order.
- I do not have any concrete proposal for any
- 14 alternate financing.
- 15 I understand the exclusivity period has not run.
- 16 But I have not received a request to limit exclusivity to
- 17 be able to propose a competing plan.
- 18 As stated, there was no response to the disclosure
- 19 statement nor to the request for debtor-in-possession
- 20 financing.
- 21 Certainly if there was impropriety regarding those
- 22 matters, I would have expected to have known about it.
- 23 Certainly there were reasons for Vision to be
- 24 suspicious, according to the testimony of its witness,
- 25 going back to June. Yet, nothing was placed on the record

- 1 before me prior to today's hearing.
- I have no idea of the relationship Mr. Clough has
- 3 or does not have with Tridex or any other customer, none.
- 4 I do have Mr. Harrison's declaration, and he is
- 5 not present to be cross-examined.
- 6 But TRO's can even be issued without notice.
- 7 Here, I've had testimony.
- 8 When one takes a look at the requirements and the
- 9 sliding scale utilized in the Ninth Circuit and then the
- 10 separate test that applies in a bankruptcy case, I am
- 11 persuaded that the debtors have satisfied -- the debtor has
- 12 satisfied its burden and that there should not be any
- 13 change in management unless and until that matter is
- 14 properly brought before the Court.
- 15 That the attempt to convert preferred shares to
- 16 common shares should be enjoined and, even it weren't, it
- 17 does not appear to me based upon representations made today
- 18 in open court by counsel for Vision that Vision would have
- 19 sufficient votes to remove the existing board in any event.
- 20 So I don't see any harm.
- 21 And I think that it would interfere with the
- 22 reorganization effort.
- 23 The reorganization effort does not necessarily
- 24 preclude participation by Vision.
- There was enough information developed today that

- 1 would cause me to be concerned about compliance with all of
- 2 the requirements of 1129(a).
- 3 So I think maintaining the status quo through at
- 4 least the time of the hearing on the disclosure statement,
- 5 unless otherwise ordered prior to that time, preserves the
- 6 ability to reorganize while not causing any harm to Vision.
- 7 That there's no evidence that there would be any
- 8 harm to Vision but could be considerable irreparable
- 9 injury, and it would be likely to result in irreparable
- 10 injury, to the debtor.
- 11 So what I am doing is granting the temporary
- 12 restraining order through November 30th, the date of the
- 13 hearing on the plan. At which time I'll conduct a status
- 14 conference regarding the injunctive relief.
- 15 I am not making any finding whatsoever regarding
- 16 any violation of the automatic stay. That's actually
- 17 asking for declaratory relief, and I'm not going to do
- 18 that.
- 19 And I am also going to grant the temporary
- 20 restraining order through November 30th regarding enjoining
- 21 the attempt to convert preferred shares by Vision and do
- 22 common shares of the debtor.
- 23 So that I've made my findings and conclusions on
- 24 the record pursuant to Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure
- 25 7052 that incorporates by reference Federal Rule of Civil

- 1 Procedure 52.
- 2 I'm instructing counsel for the debtor to prepare
- 3 findings and conclusions consistent with the oral findings
- 4 and conclusions that I've placed on the record, even the
- 5 earlier findings that I indicated prior to the taking of
- 6 the testimony.
- 7 And prepare a separate restraining order
- 8 consistent with Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 9019.
- 9 I'm granting it on both the basis of Federal Rule
- 10 of Civil -- Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7065 as
- 11 well as Section 105 of the Code;
- 12 And pursuant to Federal Rule of Bankruptcy
- 13 Procedure 7065, I'm not requiring compliance with Rule
- 14 65(c) and there won't be the requirement of a posting of a
- 15 bond.
- Now I'm also at this point now conducting a status
- 17 conference pursuant to 105(b) of the Code.
- 18 The debtor should engage in discussions with
- 19 Vision.
- 20 Reasonable requests for information should be
- 21 provided.
- The people at Vision should be aware that just
- 23 because they have an equity interest does not mean that
- 24 they likewise are entitled to any type of extraordinary
- 25 relief.

- 1 That both parties -- actually all three, because
- 2 apparently conversations don't include the debtor because
- 3 the debtor is bereft of funds.
- I think then if the discussions are at the
- 5 Fame/Vision level that those should take place and take
- 6 place soon.
- 7 Because it seems to me that the one over-arcing
- 8 matter of clarity is that the business relationships with
- 9 Asia Pacific's clients need to be preserved and protected.
- There are ways, as we've indicated, of changing
- 11 ownership even within the plan process. But what's the
- 12 point of having management of a holding company that holds
- 13 stock in a subsidiary that doesn't have an established
- 14 client base?
- Neither Fame nor Vision wants that to occur.
- And I would believe, and I am persuaded, that
- 17 Tridex and other customers and counterparties to contracts
- 18 might well be nervous about the pending bankruptcy and
- 19 concerned about how the bankruptcy may affect their
- 20 existing relationships. Especially if there is
- 21 considerable sniping and dispute regarding corporate
- 22 issues. That simply doesn't make a lot of sense to me.
- But if there is not a consensual resolution, then
- 24 we will proceed in accord with the Bankruptcy Code, Federal
- 25 Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.

109 1 (Pause in proceedings. 2 THE COURT: I think I'm done. 3 Are there any questions? Mr. Brill? 4 MS. THOMAS: No, your Honor. 5 THE COURT: Ms. Thomas? MR. BRILL: No, your Honor. 6 7 THE COURT: Thank you. 8 Mr. Murtha? MR. MURTHA: Yes, your Honor. 9 10 THE COURT: I need to ask you a question. 11 I've looked at the August 28, 2009 transaction as 12 much as I can based upon the documents that I have. 13 MR. MURTHA: Yes. 14 THE COURT: And I understand that there were 15 preferred shares in the subsidiary. 16 I am not sure that those shares are property of the estate. Under 541 I believe that the estate -- the 17 18 estate's interest is in the equity of Asia Pacific. 19 But obviously that equity is influenced by these types of financial transactions. I think that needs to be 20 21 looked at. 22 MR. MURTHA: Understood, your Honor. 23 THE COURT: That's part of what I'm saying. 24 MR. MURTHA: Got the message.

THE COURT: Thank you.

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             Thank you all very much.
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             MR. BRILL: Thank you, your Honor.
 3
             THE COURT: And we'll see you folks back here on
    the 30th of November.
 4
             I need orders on all of those things, Mr. Brill.
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 6
             MR. BRILL: Yes, your Honor.
 7
             THE COURT: As indicated.
             COURTROOM DEPUTY: All rise.
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 9
        (Proceedings concluded at 11:51:50 a.m.)
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                             <u>CERTIFICATE</u>
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             I certify that the foregoing is a correct
24
    transcript from the digital sound recording of the
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proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

2 /s/ Marjorie G. Davall October 20, 2009 I N D E X WITNESSES: <u>Direct Cross Redirect Recross</u> Antti Uusiheimala 53 68 73 Anthony J.A.B Bryan 77 By Mr. Brill By Ms. Thomas